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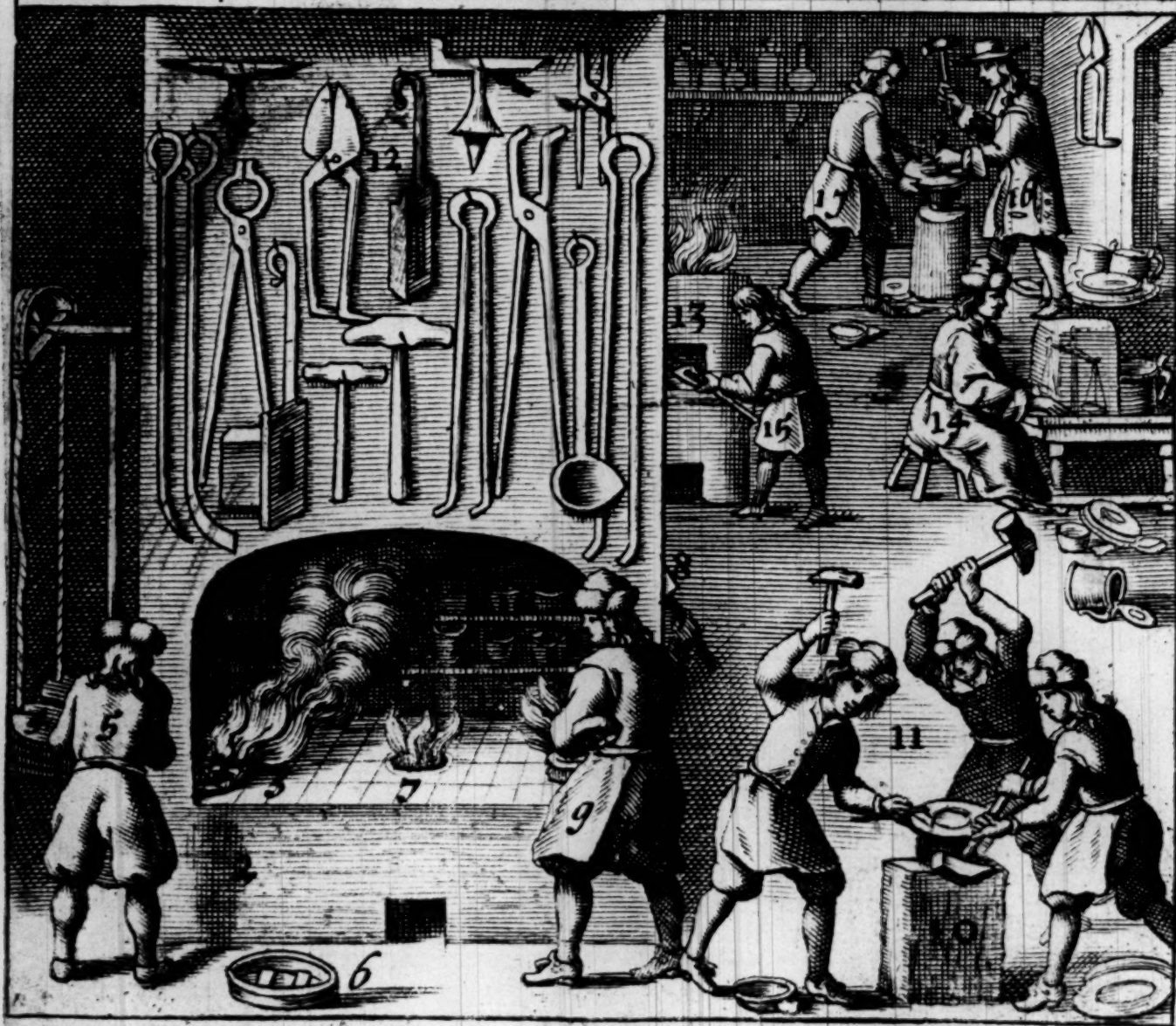
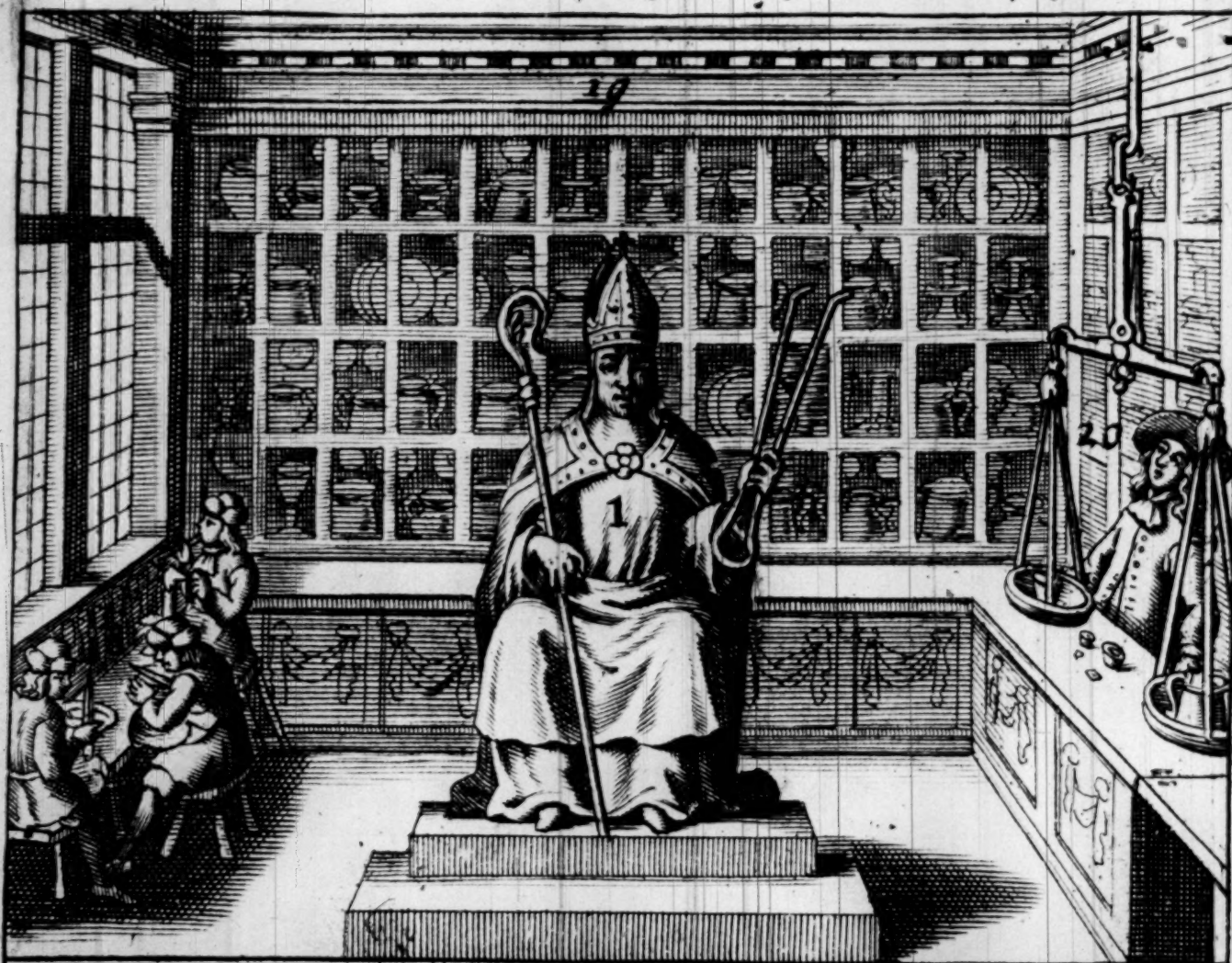
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A
TOUCH-STONE
FOR
GOLD and SILVER Wares.

OR,
A Manual for Goldsmiths,
AND
All other Persons, whether Buyers,
Sellers, or Wearers of any manner of
GOLDSMITHS Work.

DISCOVERING
The *Rules* belonging to that *Mystery*,
and the Way and Means how to know
Adulterated WARES from those made of the
True Standard Allay; And what are the True
Weights appointed for weighing of the same.

Together
With the several STATUTES now in
Force for Regulating Abuses committed in that
Craft. And the CHARTER of the Goldsmiths
Incorporation taken from the Record and truly ren-
dred into English.

To which is Annexed
The LAWS in force against Brass Hilts, and
Brass Buckles, &c. And Directions for Discovering the
Counterfeit Coyn of this KINGDOM. And also a
Catalogue of the Forraign Coyns, with the particular
Weights, Allay, and Value of each Coyn.

By *W.B.* of *London*, Goldsmith.

London, Printed for *John Bellinger* in *Clifford's-Inn Lane*,
And *Thomas Bassett* at the *George* near *Clifford's-*
Inne in *Fleet-street*, 1677.

The Intent of the Frontispiece.

- 1 *St. Dunstan, The Patron of the Goldsmiths Company.*
- 2 *The Refining Furnace.*
- 3 *The Test with Silver refining on it.*
- 4 *The Fineing Bellows.*
- 5 *The Man blowing or working them.*
- 6 *The Test Mould.*
- 7 *A Wind-hole to melt Silver in without Bellows.*
- 8 *A pair of Organ Bellows.*
- 9 *A Man melting or boyling, or nealing Silver at them.*
- 10 *A Block, with a large Anvil placed thereon.*
- 11 *Three Men Forging Plate.*
- 12 *The Fineing and other Goldsmiths Tools.*
- 13 *The Assay Furnice.*
- 14 *The Assay-Master making Assays.*
- 15 *His Man putting the Assays into the Fire.*
- 16 *The Warden marking the Plate on the Anvil.*
- 17 *His Officer holding the Plate for the Marks.*
- 18 *Three Goldsmiths, small-Workers, at work.*
- 19 *A Goldsmiths Shop furnished with Plate.*
- 20 *A Goldsmith weighing Plate.*



I Do, as far as in me lyes,
Allow of the PRINTING of
this Book.

Fra: North.

THE Author premiseth, That the mat-
ters comprized in the ensuing *Treatise*
relating to Points of Law, or Expositions
of any the *Statutes* therein mentioned, are
not barely upon his own Opinion; But
therein he hath taken the Judgment and
Resolution of Councel Learned in the Law.



TO THE
RIGHT HONOURABLE,
Sir Joseph Williamson Knight and
Baronet, Principal Secretary of State
to CHARLES the Second, King of
Great Brittain, France & Ireland, &c.
and Lord Ambassadour and Plene-
potentiary for the Treaty of a Ge-
neral Peace at *Nimmegen*.

THE subject of the ensu-
ing Treatie is Gold
and Silver, the Orna-
ment and Riches of this King-
dome; And the design there-
of is to make those Metals (in
A 3 remo-

The Epistle

removing the Abuses committed therein) to be really so. Sir, although the Sphear wherein I move in relation to my knowledg of those Metals, hath rendred me capable to make a real and plain demonstration of the Abuses committed in the same, and what remedies to apply; yet without the favourable approbation and assistance of those in Eminent Places of Authority, it may fail of the designed end, which is to prevent the deceitful working of Gold and Silver: The Consideration of which,

Dedicatory.

which, and for that I could not apply my self to any person for the Patronage of so Publique a Concern, more properly than to your Honour, whose Great Wisdom and Integrity to the Publique-Weal, hath advanced your Honour in His Majesties Favour to Places of greatest Eminency in the State: Sir, knowing his Majesties Gracious Inclination, and the intent of our Laws, is for the securing his People from injury; And that the matter of the ensuing Discourse may be no small Instrument

The Epistle

for effecting thereof in cases relating to those Metals, I am emboldened to make my humble Address to your Honour, humbly imploring your Honours Favourable Acceptance and Countenance of these my weak Endeavours; And that you will please to be Instrumental to enforce the due execution of the Laws in force made for Regulation of the working of Gold and Silver; And where any debility shall appear in those Laws, to supply the same by promoting some more effectual Remedy for the
pre-

Dedictory.

preventing all Abuses therein, and the advancing His Majesties Honour by the honest Manufacturing of Gold and Silver, that therein we be not inferiour to other Nations, which is the hearty Prayer, and shall be the earnest Endeavour of

Right Honourable,

Your Honours humble
and devoted Servant,

W. B.



To the READER.

There having not heretofore
(that ever I could hear of)
been exposed to Publique view
any *Treatise* of this kind; This
therefore may occasion more than
ordinary Curiosity in Inspecting the
Particulars thereof, and perhaps di-
spose the *Reader* to the Considerations
following.

First, *Whether the Matter of it be
true?*

Secondly, *What should incite me to
this attempt?*

Thirdly, *Whether it be not against
the Rules of a Mystery thus publickely to
discover them?*

Fourthly,

To the Reader.

Fourthly, *Whether it may not (instead of the good proposed) become a disparagement to the Manufacture, and so a prejudice to the Traders therein?*

Fifthly, *Whether this may not reflect upon the Wardens of the Company, by supposing that they do not perform their Duty in suppressing these defects?*

As to the First.

I refer the *Reader* to the *Statutes* and other *Laws* (for *Regulating the Goldsmiths Craft*) herein cited, and his own observation, (from what is here intimated) how the same have been pursued.

To the Second.

I have been moved hereunto from a desire of the *Publique Good*, Every honest man's private benefit, and of detecting deceit and falshood.

To

To the Reader.

To the Third.

What I have here discovered, is not the Honest Mystery or Craft in Working and Fashioning the Wares, (which in all Trades is to be conceal'd) but the Publique Rules of our Laws, and good Intentions of our Law-Makers to prevent Deceit in the Exercise of that Mystery which ill disposed Craftsmen in all Ages have been too prone to contrive and practice.

To the Fourth.

It cannot be supposed, that for the offences of some, all should be condemned; Or that if some Wares be deceitful, all should be so made; For I aver, That some there be of this Trade (to their honour be it spoken) that have not, nor will not in this Trade of a Goldsmith vary from the Rules and Principles of Law and Honesty, by working or selling adulterated Gold or Silver Works, though strongly beset with the temptations of
gains

To the Reader.

gains for a more plentiful livelihood; and it cannot be denyed, that a person brought up in a Trade to live honestly thereon (to see his Neighbours draw away his Customers by deceitful Wares under colour of Cheapness, or lesser profit for his work, when indeed he makes greater advantages thereby) and not be ensnared to do the like practices, argues more than an ordinary integrity and constancy.

To the Fifth.

It is well known the Wardens of Goldsmiths, London, have and will readily hear all Complaints that shall be made to them therein by any person whatsoever, and punish the Offenders: But the Workers and Sellers in this Trade being so numerous, and the Transgressors so subtile to conceal their deceit, and evade the punishment, that the endeavours of the Wardens, as yet hath been, so still will be but a weak remedy, unless the buyer or Customer who wears and uses the Commodity be made capable of knowing the good Wares

To the Reader.

Wares from the bad, and the true value of either, and how to punish the offenders, which is the intent of the ensuing Discourse; Wherefore craving the favourable Construction of the Wardens and Company of the Mystery of Goldsmiths, *London*; And all honest Workers and Sellers of *Goldsmiths* Work, for this my undertaking, I assure them and all my good Countrymen, That I value not the Calumnies of such who shall be displeased for discovering their deceitful practices; My only aim and intention in this Matter being to procure an honest Reformation in the making of Gold and Silver Works, and all other *Goldsmiths* Work whatsoever.

And having thus cast in my Mite in so just a matter, I have discharged my Conscience, and remain a devoted Servant to the Publique Good.

W. B.

To the R E A D E R.

THere having not heretofore (that ever I could hear of) been expos'd to publick view any *Treatise* of this kind : This therefore may occasion more than ordinary Curiosity in inspecting the particulars thereof, and perhaps dispose the *Reader* to the Considerations following.

First, *Whether the matter of it touching the Goldsmiths Craft be true?*

Secondly, *What should incite me to this attempt?*

Thirdly, *Whether it be not against the Rules of a Mystery thus publickly to discover them?*

Fourthly, *Whether it may not (instead of the good proposed) become a disparagement to the Manufacture, and so a prejudice to the Traders therein?*

Fifthly, *Whether this may not reflect upon the Wardens of the Company, by supposing that they do not perform their Duty in suppressing these defects?*

As to the First, I refer the *Reader* to the *Statutes* and other *Laws* (for *Regulating the Goldsmiths Craft*) herein cited, and his own observation, (from what is here intimated) how the same have been pursued.

To the Second I have been moved hereunto not from particular interest, but from a desire of the Publick good, every honest mans private benefit, and of detecting deceit and falshood.

To the Third. What I have here discovered,

A

is

To the Reader.

is not the honest Mystery or Craft in Working and Fashioning the Wares, (which in all Trades is to be conceal'd) but the publick Rules of our Laws, and good intentions of our Law-Makers to prevent Deceit in the exercise of that Mystery which ill disposed Craftsmen in all Ages have been too prone to contrive and practice.

To the Fourth. It cannot be supposed, that for the Offences of some, all should be condemned; or that if some Wares be deceitful, all should be so made: For I aver, that some there be of this Trade (to their honor be it spoken) that have not, nor will not in this Trade of a Goldsmith vary from the Rules and Principles of Law and Honesty, by working or selling adulterated Gold or Silver Works, though strongly beset with the temptations of gains for a more plentiful livelihood; and it cannot be denied, that a person brought up in a Trade to live honestly thereon (to see his Neighbours draw away his Customers by deceitful Wares under colour of cheapness, or lesser profit for his work, when indeed he makes greater advantages thereby) and not be ensnared to do the like practices, argues more than an ordinary integrity and constancy.

And I am of this favourable opinion that many who have been Transgressors in this kind were meerly so of necessity to preserve their Trades and Customers; and that such their doings hath not been with, but altogether against their good inclinations, and would not a little rejoyce, and that of an honest principle, that a through reformation were made therein.

To the Fifth. It is well known the Wardens of the

To the Reader.

the *Goldsmiths London*, have readily heard Complaints that were made to them therein, and punished the Offenders: And it is hoped the same constancy and zeal to a through Reformation will be in their Successors. But the Workers and Sellers in this Trade being so numerous, and the Transgressors so subtil to conceal their deceit, and evade the punishment, that the endeavours of the Wardens, as yet hath been, so still will be but a weak remedy, unless a greater Authority be given to them, which I have in the ensuing Treatise humbly proposed, and unless the Buyer or Customer who wears and uses the Commodity be made capable of knowing the lawful Wares from the unlawful, and the true value of the Metal of either, and how to punish the Offenders by more ready and easie ways than heretofore, which is the chief intent of the ensuing Discourse.

And for the encouragement of those that have a lawful right to exercise the Goldsmiths Trade, I have in the ensuing Treatise given a plain description of that Trade, and what are the proper Works thereof.

I have also carefully collected the Laws in force for restraining persons from exercising that and all other Manual Trades that have not been brought up seven years as Apprentices thereto; and also the Laws in force for restraining Aliens from exercising the same; to the intent that as on the one hand I would prevent dishonest Actions of the lawful Goldsmiths, so I would be a means to obtain their due Rights and Liberties in suppressing and preventing all intruders into their Trade.

To the Reader.

Wherefore craving the favourable construction of the Wardens of the Company of Goldsmiths, *London*, and all honest Workers and Sellers of *Goldsmiths* Work, for this my undertaking, I assure them and all my good Countrymen, that I value not the Calumny of such who shall be displeased for discovering their deceitful and unlawful practices: My only aim and intention in this matter being to procure an honest Reformation in the making of Gold and Silver Works, and all other *Goldsmiths* Works whatsoever: then would they truly be the Ornament and Riches of this Kingdom.

And since to our Ornaments and Riches the means of safety is requisite, I have in the ensuing Treatise humbly proposed a Supplement to the Laws already made and in force touching the *Cutlers* Mystery. and for the Manufacturing of Sword-Blades in this Kingdom; a work of late neglected: but if encouraged by the means I have proposed, or some other way, it would be of great advantage, honor, and safety to this Nation, by the making all Weapons of War at home, and preventing our being imposed upon by other Nations, and enriching them with the profit of that Work, and with our Coin that is transported for the same.

And having thus cast in my Myte in so important and just a matter, I have discharged my Duty, and shall remain a devoted Servant to the Publick Good.

W. B.

The



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A Touch-

John Dore's
sil: for an Assay Dec^r 18. 1675.

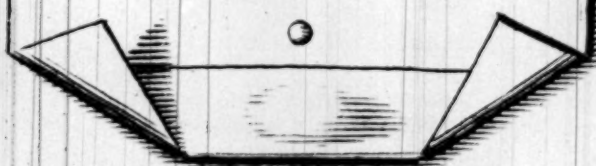
1



Will. Roe's
sil: for an Assay Ianst 27. 1675.

Worse. ^{3 dwt} ij. viij.

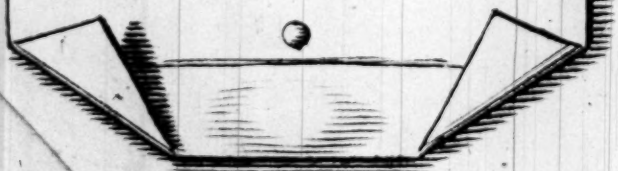
2



Tho: Dore's
Gold for an Assay Apr. 10. 1675

Worse ^{4 grs} ij. iij.

3



1 { An Assay paper open without the Assay Master's report.

2 { An Assay paper open of silver wth the Assay Masters report w^{ch} is i. 8. ob. in the ounce worse then standard silver.

3 { An Assay paper open of Gold wth the Assay Masters report w^{ch} is 10. i. d. in the ounce worse then standard Gold.

4 { An Assay paper folded up.

5 { The Company of Goldsmith's Marks. L being y^e letter for this year 1676.



A
 Touch-stone
 FOR
 Gold and Silver Wares :
 OR,
A Manual for Goldsmiths.

That there hath been and is a great abuse to the People of this Kingdome in the Silver and Gold that is wrought into the severall sorts of Wares in use amongst us, is no hard matter to manifest ; For if there were inspection
 B made

made into the Silver that is wrought into Buckles for Belts, Girdles, Shooes, Garters, and such like ; And Hilts for Swords and the pieces thereto belonging ; And all other sorts of small work both of Gold and Silver, and the value thereof truly Examined, a great part thereof would be found to want very much of the value it ought to be of, in respect both of the Standard, and the Price it was sold at, whereby the wearing buyer is abused and defrauded, and the Lawes infringed, for the private benefit only of deceitful and ill-minded men. To direct therefore in the Discovery of False Wares, and to prevent the Evils arising thence, I have framed this Discourse, which consists of Three Parts ; As,

First, *What Silver and Gold is in its own Nature, and the Sort or Standard, that is or ought to be in use amongst us.*

Secondly, *A recital of the Statutes and other Lawes in force for preventing the working and selling*

and Silver Wares.

3

*selling Gold and Silver Work;
that is worse than that Stan-
dard.*

Thirdly, *Some Notes giving light to
those Statutes, and directing
how to prevent Deceit in Gold
or Silver work, and the way of
Redress for such Offences.*

Silver is a Mineral of that Excellent Nature, that when it is in the highest degree of fineness, it will endure melting a long time in extream heat, with but very little wast; which quality is not in any other Mettal, save Gold, which (in the finest degree) is more fixt, and will endure the fire with less wast: Wherefore Gold and Silver for this excellency and their scarceness, and capableness of being wrought into so many sorts of Useful and Ornamental things above other Mettals, is one Reason that it bears so great a value, and answers all things.

Our fore-fathers considering that Silver in its finest degree would be too

A Touch-stone for Gold

soft for use and service (for the finest Silver is almost as soft as Lead), did consult to reduce or harden the Silver (by allaying it with baser Metal) to such a degree, that it might be both serviceable in the works, and also in the wearing keep its native Whiteness; And upon Experiment and due Consideration, did agree that there should be put Eighteen penny weight of fine Copper into Eleven Ounces and two penny weight Troy of the finest Silver, both which makes Twelve Ounces or the pound Troy; And so according to that proportion for more or less; (where it is to be observed, That either Tin, Pewter or Lead being put into Gold or Silver for the allaying thereof, or being mixt therewith, renders it extream brittle, and altogether unfit for work) which degree of allay is concluded upon by the Law-makers of this Kingdome, to be the Standard for all Silver Money, and all Silver Works, and is commonly called the *Sterling Allay* (from the *Esterlings* or men that came from the *East-Country*, and were the first Contrivers

vers and makers of that allay;) And this is that which is meant in the *Statute* of 18 *Eliz. Cap. 15.* by the Expression, (to wit) *Not less in fineness than that of 11 Ounces two penny weight.* And for this purpose divers *Statutes* have been made, which I have here recited *verbatim* as followeth.

The *Statute* 28 *Edw. 1. Cap. 20.*

It is Ordained, That no Goldsmith of England, nor none other-where within the Kings Dominions, shall from henceforth make or cause to be made any manner of Vessel, Jewel, or any other thing of Gold or Silver, except it be of good and true allay, (that is to say) Gold of a Certain touch, and Silver of the Sterling allay, or of better at the pleasure of him to whom the Work belongeth; and that none work worse Silver then Honey; And that no manner of Vessel of Silver depart out of the hands of the Workers until it be Assayed by the Wardens of the Craft; and further, that it be marked with the Leopards-Head:

B 3

And

A Touch-stone for Gold

And that they work no worse Gold then of the touch of Paris ; And that the Wardens of the Craft shall go from Shop to Shop among the Goldsmiths to assay if their Gold be of the same touch that is spoken of before ; And if they find any other then of the Touch aforesaid, the Gold shall be forfeit to the King ; [And that none shall make Rings, Crosses, nor Locks,] And that none shall set any stone in Gold except it be Natural ; And that Gravers or Cutters of Stones, and of Seals, shall give to each their weight of Silver and Gold as near as they can upon their Fidelity ; And the Jewels of base Gold which they have in their hands, they shall utter as fast as they can ; And from thenceforth if they buy any of the same Work, they shall buy it to work upon, and not to sell again : And that all the good Towns of England where any Goldsmith be dwelling, shall be Ordered according to this Statute, as they of London be ; And that one shall come from every good Town for all the residue that be dwelling in the same, unto London

These words of this Statute, [None shall make Rings, Crosses, nor Locks,] Repeal. 21 Jac. 28.

London, for to be ascertained of their Touch. And if any Goldsmith be attainted hereafter because that he hath done otherwise then before is Ordained, he shall be punished by imprisonment and by ransome at the Kings pleasure. And notwithstanding all these things before mentioned, or any point of them, Both the King and his Council, and all they that were present at the making of this Ordinance, will and intend that the Right and Prerogative of his Crown shall be saved to him in all things.

Stat. 37 Ed. 3. Cap. 7.

Item, It is accorded, That Goldsmiths as well in London as elsewhere within the Realm, shall make all manner of Vessels and other Work of Silver, well and Lawfully of the allay of good Sterling; And every Master Goldsmith shall have a mark by himself, and the same mark shall be known by them which shall be assigned by the King to survey their Work and Allay; And that the said Goldsmiths

A Touch-stone for Gold

set not their Marks upon their Works till the said Surveyors have made their assay as shall be ordained by the King and his Council; and after the Assay made, the Surveyor shall set the Kings Mark, and after the Goldsmith his mark for which he will answer; And that no Goldsmith take for Vessel white and full for the weight of a pound (that is to say) of the price of two Marks of Paris weight, but Eighteen pence as they do at Paris: [And that no Goldsmith making White Vessel shall meddle with gilding,] nor they that do gild shall meddle to make white Vessel: And they which shall be so assigned in every Town shall make their Searches as oftentimes as shall be Ordained; And for that which shall be in the Goldsmiths default, they shall incur the pain of forfeiture to the King, the value of the Metal which shall be found in default.

This
Clause
[That no
Goldsmith
shall make
white Vessel
and also
gild] Re-
pealed
21 Jac. 18.

Stat.

Stat. 2 Hen. 6. 14.

*The fineness of Harness of Silver, And
that it shall be marked with the
Leopard's Head.*

Item, That no Goldsmith nor worker of Silver within the City of London, sell any workmanship of Silver, unless it be as fine as the sterling, except the same need solder in the making, which shall be allowed according as the solder is necessary to be wrought in the same; And that no Goldsmith nor Jeweller, nor any other that worketh Harness of Silver, shall set any of the same to sale within the City, before that it be Touched with the touch, and also with the Mark or Sign of the Workman of the same, upon pain of Forfeiture of the double value as afore is said: And that the Mark and Sign of every Goldsmith be known to the Wardens of the Craft. And if it may be found that the said Keeper of the Touch, touch any such Harness with the Leopard's Head,

Head, except it be as fine in allay as the sterling, that then the Keeper of the Touch for every thing so proved not as good in allay as the said sterling, shall forfeit the double value to the King, and to the party as is above recited. And also it is likewise Ordained in the City of York, Newcastle upon Tyne, Lincoln, Norwich, Bristow, Salisbury and Coventry, That every one shall have divers Touches according to the Ordinance of the Mayors, Bayliffs, or Governors of the same Towns; And that no Goldsmiths nor other Workers of Silver, nor Keepers of the said Touches within the same Towns, shall set to sale or touch any Silver in other manner then is ordained, before within the City of London, upon pain of the said forfeitures. And moreover, That no Goldsmith or other Worker of Silver within the Realm of England, where no touch is ordained as afore is said, shall work any Silver except it be as fine in allay as the sterling; And that the Goldsmith or worker of the same Silver set upon the
same

same his Mark or Sign, before he set it to sale: And if it be found that it is not as fine as the sterling, that then the worker of the same shall forfeit the double value in manner and form as before is recited within the City of London. And the Justices of Peace, Mayors and Bayliffs, and all other having power as Justices of the Peace, shall here enquire and determine, by Bill, Plaint, or in other manner, all that do contrary to the said Ordinances, and thereof to make due execution by their discretions. Provided alwayes, That if the Master of the Mint that now is, or which for the time shall be, offend or have offended in his Office of the said Mint, that then he be punished and Justified according to the form of the said Indentures.

Stat.

Stat. 18 Eliz. 15.

Whereas certain evil disposed Goldsmiths deceitfully do make and sell Plate and other Gold and Silver Wares to the great defrauding of her Majestie and her good Subjects; For Remedy whereof, Be it Enacted by the Authority of this present Parliament, That no Goldsmith from the Twentieth day of April next coming shall work, sell, Exchange, or cause to be wrought, sold, or exchanged, any Plate or other Goldsmiths Wares of Gold less in fineness then that of Twenty two Carrects, And that he use no Sodder, Ammel, or other stuffings whatsoever in any of their Works more than is necessary for the finishing of the same; And that they take not above the rate of Twelve pence for the Duncz of Gold (besides the fashion) more then the buyer may or shall be allowed for the same at the Queens Exchange or Mint, upon pain to forfeit the value of the thing so sold or exchanged: And that from the said Twentieth

tieth day of April, no Goldsmith shall make, sell or exchange in any place within this Realm, any Plate or Goldsmiths Wares of Silver, less in fineness then that of Eleven Ounces two penny weight, nor take above the rate of Twelve pence for every pound weight of Plate or Wares of Silver, (besides the fashion) more then the buyer shall or may be allowed for the same at the Queens Exchange or Mint; Nor put to sale, exchange or sell any Plate or Goldsmiths Work of Silver before he hath set his own Mark to so much thereof as conveniently may bear the same, upon pain to forfeit the value of the thing so sold or exchanged: And if any Goldsmith shall make any Goldsmiths Work or Plate, and the same after the said Twentieth day of April, shall be touched, marked and allowed for good by the Wardens or Masters of that Mystery, And if in the same there shall be found any falshood or deceit then the Wardens and Corporation of that Mystery for the time being, shall forfeit and pay the value of the thing so exchanged
or

or sold. The one Moyety of all which Forfeitures shall be to the use of the Queens Majestie; and the other Moyety to the use of such party grieved and sustaining loss thereby as will sue for the same in any Court of Record, by Action, Bill, Plaint, Information, or otherwise; wherein no Essoyne, Protection, or Wager of Law shall be admitted for the Defendant.

From which Statutes it is to be observed, That no manner of Silver Work whatsoever made, sold or exchanged in any place within this Realm, is to be worse than the afore-said Standard or Sterling allay.

And for the better observing these Rules, the persons using that Mystery in and about the City of *London* have been and are Incorporated by the Name of the Wardens and Company of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of *London*, and all that exercise that Mystery in the said City and Liberties thereof, ought to be of that Company; though many there are of
that

that Myſtery who (through miſtake or deſign) are Free of other Companies, which yet hinders not but that they are to all intents and purpoſes in reſpect of their Works, as much under the power of the ſaid Company, as their own proper Members are; The Wardens thereof (I mean the Company of Goldſmiths) are by the firſt recited Statute and their Charter, Authoriſed to ſearch amongſt all the Goldſmiths, and all others Trading in Gold and Silver Work in any place within this Realm, And to aſſay their Gold and Silver Work, and to break and deface all they do find of worſe allay than is appointed by the afore recited Statutes; And to fine the Offenders to the value of the Offence: Which large and copious Authority is known to have been put in practice: And for the Readers further knowledge of all the Power and Authority to them given, I refer him to the Inrolment of the Patent now remaining of Record in the Chappel of the Rolls, a true Copy of which faithfully rendered into Engliſh, is hereunto annexed.

And

For the more easie discovering the Workers and Sellers of unlawful Gold or Silver Work, the Statutes afore-said do appoint, That every Master Worker in Goldsmiths Work within this Realm, shall have his proper Mark, and the same Marks shall set on their Works, before it be set to sale.

And that all such Workers Marks (in the City of *London* and Three miles compass of the same) to be known to those assigned by the King to Survey their Work and Allay, that is, the Wardens of the Goldsmiths, And all other Workers Marks in the several places where Touches be ordained, to be known to those appointed there to Survey their work and allay; upon the same penalty as is appointed for working or selling course Silver-work, (that is) to forfeit the value of the Silver work not marked with the Worker's Mark, or marked with a Mark not so made known, *although the Silver be of the fineness of Sterling.*

And by reason that under the general

ral term (of any Goldsmith's Work) mention'd in the Stat. of 18 *Eliz.* 15. is comprehended all Wier-work and Lace of Gold and Silver, which cannot be marked with the workers Marks (to answer the intent of the Law,) therefore our Law-Makers have put in this Proviso in the said Stat. 18 *Eliz.* 15. (*viz.*) to let the workers Mark to so much of his Work as will conveniently bear the same; but for all other Goldsmiths work, it will bear the Workers Mark with as much convenience as with reason can be desired.

And for all Silver Work that is of the most Eminent account (of which are all sorts comprehended under the Names of *Vessels and Harness* that are made in and about the City of *London*, and within three miles of the same) these are not to be left unto or received upon the Credit and Reputation of the Maker thereof, by having only his Mark thereto; But the Credit and Reputation of the Company by their setting their Marks to the same, who are surely the most likely to continue,
C and

and most able to make satisfaction in case of defect, as is appointed by the said Statutes, when the Worker and Seller may be dead, or by several ways disabled to make recompence to the parties wronged.

The Company of Goldsmiths considering that their Wardens are by their Charter and the Statutes aforesaid, appointed to Survey, Assay and Mark the Silver-work, and that these Officers are yearly chosen according to their Usage out of their Members of the Assistants, in course as they received their Admittance into those Places; And that such Choice sometimes falls upon them that are either of other Trades, or not Skill'd in that Curious Art of making Assays of Gold and Silver, and consequently unable to make a true Report of the Goodness thereof, or else the necessary Attendance therein being too great a Burden for the Wardens; Therefore they have appointed an Assay-Master, called by them their Deputy-Warden, allowing him a considerable Yearly Salary;

Sallary, and who takes an Oath to this effect, (*viz.*) to perform that Office Faithfully according to the best of his Skill, that is, to make true assay of all Gold and Silver brought to their Office for that purpose, and elsewhere as the Wardens and Company shall appoint, and give a true Report of the goodness or badness of the same.

They have also caused to be made (according to the aforeſaid Statutes and their Charter) Punchions of Steel, and marks at the end of them, both great and ſmall of theſe ſeveral ſorts following, (that is) *the Leopards Head Crowned, the Lyon, and a Letter*, (a true Emblem of which Marks are expreſſed in the Copper Cut following) which Letter is changed Alphanetically every Year; the reaſon of changing thereof is, (as I conceive) for that by the afore recited Statutes it is Provided, That if any Silver Work that is worſe than Sterling be marked with the Companies Marks, the Wardens and Corporation for the time being ſhall make recompence to the party

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grieved,

grieved ; so that if any such default should happen , they can tell by the Letter on the Work in what Year it was Assayed and marked, and thereby know which of their own Officers deceived them, and from them obtain over, a recompence. These Marks are every Year made New for the use of the New Wardens ; and although the Assaying is referr'd to the Assay-Master, yet the Touch-Wardens looks to the Striking the Marks.

They have also made in a part of their Hall, a place called by them their *Assay-Office* , as is before mentioned, wherein is a Sworn Weigher, his Duty is to weigh all Silver Work into the Office, and enter the same into a Book for that purpose ; And also to weigh it out again to the Owner, (only four Grains out of every Twelve Ounces that is marked, is according to their Antient Custome to be detained and kept for a re-assaying once in every Year all the Silver Works they have passed for good the year foregoing.

In

In this Office is likewise kept for Publique View a Table or Tables artificially made in Columns (that is to say) one Column of hardened Lead, another of Parchment or Velom, and several of the same sorts ; In the Lead Columns are struck or entred the Workers Marks, (*which are generally the two first Letters of their Christian and Surnames*) and right against them in the Parchment or Velom Columns are writ and entred the Owners Names ; This is that which is meant in the before recited Statutes, by the Expression of *making the Workers Mark known to the Surveyers, or Wardens of the Craft* : Which said Wardens Duty is to see that the Marks be plain, and of a fit Size, and not one like another ; And to require the thus Entring the said Marks, And also the setting them clear and visible on all Gold and Silver work, not only on every Work, but also on every part thereof that is wrought apart, and afterwards Soldered or made fast thereto in finishing the same.

A Touch-stohe for Gold

The reason for setting the Worker's Mark *on every part of the Work*, is to take away all colour of excuse from the maker of false work, who might otherwise craftily pretend that the part marked by him was good Silver or Gold, and (the unmarked part being bad) that the bad was added by some body else since the Plate went out of his hand.

Every Worker aforesaid is not only obliged to enter his Mark on the Table aforesaid, But according to the Companies By-Law for that purpose, is at the same time to enter in a Book (kept for that purpose in the *Assay-Office*) the place of his habitation; and if he remove to any other place, then to enter the same also in the Book aforesaid, so that their habitations may be always known to the Wardens of the Craft.

The Reason is, for that if at any time any Gold or Silver Wares be found to be of worse Allay then they should be, the Worker (by his Mark set thereon) although

although he may not be known to the party grieved, yet by application to the Company, and by their comparing the Mark on the Work, to the Marks on their Table, may thereby be presently discovered.

Every Worker dwelling in the City of *London*, and Three miles compass of the same City, and also those in other places whose Marks are not so made known, according to the aforefaid *Statutes*, such Marks are deemed no Marks, and the making and selling Gold or Silver work whereon such fraudulent Marks are set, is as punishable as the working and selling Gold or Silver work that is worle than Standard as aforefaid.

And if the Companies Marks, or the Workers Marks that are made known to the Surveyers or Wardens as aforefaid, should be counterfeited on any Gold or Silver work, by any ways or means whatsoever, the Counterfeiter thereof is punishable for every such offence, by Indictment, and Fine to the
C 4 King,

King, and sometimes (as the Offence may be circumstantiated) by the Pillory; after which the Company or Party whose Marks are Counterfeited, may bring their Action against the Offender, and recover the damage sustained.

Our Law-Makers (as I conceive) did think the thus setting the Marks on the VVork, to be the securest way to prevent Fraud in this kind; for if it would not deter from the working and selling Course Silver and Gold Wares, yet would it be a sure way to find out the Offenders, and to have the injured righted: But if the Marks might be omitted, and the work should pass but into a third Owner's hands, for the most part it would be impossible to discern one man's VVork from another, by reason that divers workers make all sorts of VVork in shape so neer alike.

It is queried by some, Whether the omitting to mark Silver Work that is Sterling, be punishable by Law, it being no positive deceit?

To which I answer.

That where a *Statute* commands a thing to be done, if the same be omitted, it is a contempt of that Law, and punishable; especially in this case where it may be considered, That although it be not a direct deceit, yet to omit the marking good Silver work, is of ill example, and opens a door to deceit: for the permitting a worker to omit the setting his Mark or the Companies Marks on his good work, is to encourage him at another time to work Course Gold or Silver, since by such omission the Maker and Seller thereof will thereby remain undiscovered, and so avoid making satisfaction for his deceit.

For the Discovery of false Gold and Silver from that which is good, and to know the true value thereof, the
manner

manner is this: The Assay-Master puts a small quantity of the Silver upon tryal in the fire, and then taking the same out again, he with his exact Scales that will turn with the weight of the hundredth part of a Grain, computes and reports the goodness or the badness of the Gold or Silver.

In this Office are kept the Tools to strike the Companies Marks, which ought to be done clear and visible on such Work that is Standard; and what is worse ought to be broken and defaced, whereby Thousands of Ounces of defective Silver yearly receives execution: whence it may be inferred, That if so many pieces of Plate and Silver Work (that are brought to receive the Companies Marks) be broken and defaced, which were not suspected by the Owner, then surely the Silver Work never designed to be brought to be Assayed and Marked, much more deserves to be so served.

The said Company hath now appointed only Three dayes in every Week

Week, (to wit) *Tuesdays, Thursdays,* and *Saturdays*, (formerly every working day) to assay and mark the Silver Work; And all persons workers in Gold and Silver Works in the City of *London*, and Three miles of the same City, are now (as by Law they ought to be) allowed to receive the Companies Marks on their Work; and in case of the Workers neglect therein, the Wardens are to enforce the same by going often on their Search, and break and deface all Gold and Silver Works finish'd and exposed to sale (among all Workers or Traders therein) that are not marked according to Law: Or at leastwise where the Silver is Sterling, to Fine the Offender for such his unlawful neglect.

In the afore recited *Statute* of the 28 *Ed. 1. Cap. 20.* it is Enacted, That no manner of Vessel of Silver depart out of the hands of the Workers, until it be Assayed by the Wardens of the Craft; And further, That it be marked with the Leopards-Head. And in the afore recited *Statute* of the 2d.

2d. of *Henry* the 6th, Chap. 14. it is Enacted, That no Goldsmith nor Jeweller, nor any other that worketh Harnesse of Silver, shall set any of the same to sale within the City of London, before that it be Touched with the Touch, and also with the Mark or Sign of the Workman of the same.

For the understanding of which, it is to be known, That all manner of Silver Work made to hold any liquid or other matter, is to be comprehended under and called by the general name of Vessels, although in the particulars, they are called by several other names; As the Coyn of this Kingdom is called by the general term of Money; but in the particular parts thereof are called by several other names, as, Pence, Shillings, &c.

Under the title or term of *Harnesse*, (in the said Statute) is included all kind of Furniture for defence of Man and Horses against the Enemy, as Swords, Buckles for Belts, Girdles, and such like; and also all other manner
of

of wearing Instruments for Warr; which term of *Harness*, (in the same signification as we take it, by the Opinion of the best Expositors) is mentioned 2 *Chron.* 9. 24. *Jer.* 46. 4. *Exod.* 13. 18.

And that Hilts for Swords are comprehended under the term of *Harness*, as well as Buckles for Belts or Girdles, which may be collected by the *Statutes* 5 *Hen.* 4. 13. 3 *Ed.* 4. 4. 1 *Rich.* 3. 12. And 5 *Eliz.* 7. those Buckles are there called *Harness*, they being a material part of Girdles or Belts, and necessary to compleat the same for Martial Actions whereunto they are properly designed. And a Girdle or Belt being of no use to that end without a Sword to be worn in the same, and the Hilt being the chief defensive part of that Weapon, the same must consequently be included under the term of *Harness*.

Which granted, it must be concluded, That all Hilts of Silver, and Buckles of Silver for Girdles or Belts, &c. (being comprehended under the term

term of Harness) are by the recited Statute of 2. *Hen. 6. Cap. 14.* to be **ouched with the Touch**, (that is) Assay'd and Marked by the Wardens of the Goldsmiths.

Note, Their so doing was antiently called the *Touch*; and the Wardens that are to make the Assays and mark the Silver, are now called the *Touch-Wardens*.

By all which 'tis manifest, That all Silver Hilts for Swords, and Silver Buckles for Girdles or Belts, are not only to be of the fineness of Sterling, but also Assay'd and Marked by the Wardens of the Goldsmiths before they be exposed to sale, upon pain of forfeiting double the value thereof.

From which I infer, (that the afore recited *Statutes* positively appointing all Vessels and Harness of Silver to be marked with the Companies Marks) The Wardens would have done well, if (as touching Vessels and Harness) they had omitted these Ambiguous words in their late Precept (hereafter inserted)

inserted) (*viz.*) if the said Clocks will conveniently bear the same; When in truth all the said Works can and must bear the same.

Therefore I conclude, That if the Wardens of the Goldsmiths shall be remiss in compelling all Workers of Vessels, and all Workers of Hilts for Swords, Buckles, and other Harness of Silver in the City of *London*, and three miles off the same, to bring the same Works to receive their Marks as aforesaid, it will be great Imprudence in them to lay themselves by such neglects open to the Law, when so small industry will prevent it.

In the Statute of the 2d. of *Henry* the 6th, *Chap.* 14. it is Enacted, That *Sodder* shall be allowed for the making up all Silver Wares (to wit) so much as is necessary for working the same. For the Explaining this word (*Necessary*,) see the Statute of 18 *Eliz.* 15. thereby the same quantity of *Sodder* is appointed again & further Enacted, That no Silver Work shall be worse in fineness

nels then that of Eleven Dunces two penny weight; This is to be understood of all the parts thereof, besides the Sodder; for when all the Work is melted together, (that is) the soddered places with the rest, it will be worse then that Allay, by so much as the Sodder is worse than Standard; therefore the same Statutes though darkly, yet by a necessary Implication, limits the quantity of Sodder that shall be allowed for all Wares to a pennyworth in the Ounce, or a four penny weight in the Pound, by this Clause, **noꝝ take above the rate of twelue pence foꝝ ebery pound weight** (that is, one pennyworth in every ounce) of **Plate oꝝ Wares of Silver** besides the fashion, more then the buyer shall oꝝ may be allowed foꝝ the same at the **Queens Exchange oꝝ Mint.** (That is)

If any Silver Work being melted, (with the Sodder thereof together) and it be more than the value of one pennyworth in the Ounce, or four penny weight in the Pound Troy worse than Sterling, it is not to be allowed.

And

And therefore if such have only the Makers mark thereon, the maker incurs the penalty of paying the value of the whole work ; and if the same be allowed and marked by the Company, they are to make satisfaction to the party grieved.

In the Statutes afore recited, the term, *Goldsmith*, is frequently used, for the understanding whereof it is to be known, that the working of Gold or Silver either by a private workman, or by the Master Shop-keeper, or his delivering out Gold or Silver to his Servants, or Workmen to be wrought into any sort of Work or Ware, either by *Melting, Filing or Hammering*, or every of them, is, or may (according to antient usage, and the intent of the afore recited Statutes) be deemed and taken to be the Trade of the *Goldsmiths*.

And every Person having served Seven Years Apprentiship, or as an Apprentice (to any Person that did before and during the said term follow the

D said

saïd Trade as aforesaid) is and may properly be called a *Goldsmith*, and such persons and their Apprentices (and none other) may lawfully follow or exercise the same ; Stat. 5 *Eliz. chap.* 5.

Every worker of Gold or Silver wares, as aforesaid, is by the intent of the Law a *Goldsmith*, which appears by the saïd Statute 18 *Eliz.* 15. which principally aimed at the reforming the abuse of making and selling deceitful Gold and Silver work. For if the Makers of that Statute did not intend and conclude all workers of Gold and Silver wares as aforesaid, to be *Goldsmiths*, and all Workers and Retailers of deceitful Gold and Silver wares to be thereby punishable, that Statute (which is the last made in that case) would be ineffectual, and the abuse it intended to reform, would notwithstanding remaine.

To conclude, if any Person hath bought or received (of any worker or seller of Silver work) any kind of Silver wares suspected to be deceitful, the same
deceit

deceit may be known without doing prejudice to the work, by rubbing the Plate in some place least in sight, with a File of indifferent fineness; and if it be worse then Starling it will appear Yellowish, or else file it a little, and rub the Place filed on a cleane Touch-stone, and close by it rub the edge of a good Half-Crown-piece or such like thick money, and the difference, if any, will appear.

The reason that I direct the filing the Work is this (to wit) that the Artificial boiling of course Silver work, will so eat or dissolve the Allay that is on the surface or outside thereof, that unless it be filed as abovesaid, it will Touch on the Touch-stone six pence or eight pence in the ounce better then it is.

Note further, That to know a good Touch-stone, you must observe, That the best sort are very black, and of a fine grain, polished very smooth, and without any spungy or grain-holes; And near the hardness of a Flint, but yet with such a sharp cutting greet,
D 2
that

Touch-stones are usually sold at the Iron-mongers in Foster-Lane, London.

that it will cut or wear the Silver or Gold when rubbed thereon.

The way to make a true Touch on the Touch-stone, is thus; When your Touch-stone is very clean, which if foul or soily, it may be taken off, by wetting it, and then rubbing it dry with a clean Woollen Cloth; or if fill'd with Touches of Gold or Silver, &c. it may be taken off by rubbing the Touch-stone with a pumice-stone in water, and it will make it very clean; then (your Silver being filed as above-said) rub it steadily and very hard on the stone, not spreading your Touch above a quarter of an inch long, and no broader than the thickness of a Five-shilling-piece of Silver; And so continue rubbing it until the place of the stone whereon you rub, be like the Metal it self: And when every sort is rubbed on, that you intend at that time, wet all the touch't places with your Tongue, and it will shew it self in its own countenance.

If

If it appear by these wayes to be worse than Standerd, you may carry or send it to the Goldsmiths *Assay-Office* aforesaid, and upon your desire, the Officers there will make an assay of the same, and give you a true report of the value thereof in writing, and return the Ware (and Silver taken off for the Assay) to you again, no more defaced than what is done by the scraping of the Silver for the assay.

But if you are minded to keep the matter more concealed, you may artificially cut or scrape between 18 or 24 grains from some one part, or from all the parts of the work (except the soldered places) (for less in weight than between 18 and 24 grains is not sufficient for an assay) Then in a piece of paper of about 6 inches long, and 4 inches broad, At the one end write down the Owners name, and the day of the Month and Year ; and at the other end put the cuttings or scrapings of Silver in a fold, turning in the corners once, to prevent the shedding the Silver, and so fold up all the paper to

A Touch-stone for Gold

the name so written, on the top as aforesaid. The manner and form for folding up the said Paper, and of the Assay-Master's Entry of his report in such Paper, is here presented by a Copper Cut.

Here place the Copper Cut.

Then carry or send it to the Goldsmiths Assay-Office as aforesaid (which is now on the South part of their Hall in *Foster-Lane, London*) on any of the Assay-days aforesaid, before the hour of 9 in the morning, and leave it with the Assay-Master or his Servant, and at 4 of the Clock in the Afternoon the same day it will be done; and by calling there for the Assay, by the name in the Paper, it will be delivered, upon the payment of 2^d, which is the accustomed Fee for the making of an Assay.

In which Paper the Assay Master
will

will enter his report thereof in writing
in manner following,

If it be Sterling or Standard, } *Sta.*
he will write ———

If it be a half-penny }
weight worse, he } *Worse ob.*
will write ———

If it be a penny weight } *dwt.*
worse, he will write } *Worse j*

If it be a penny weight } *dwt.*
and half worse, he } *Worse j ob.*
will write, ———

If it be Two penny } *dwt.*
weight worse, he } *Worse ij*
will write, ———

And so proceeding higher,

If it be Ten penny } *dwt.*
weight worse, he } *Worse x*
will write, ———

A Touch-stone for Gold

If it be Ten penny
weight and a half
worſe, he will
write, ————

If it be Eleven pen-
ny weight worse } *worse* *vi*
he will write, —

If it be Eleven
penny weight
& a half worse
he will write,


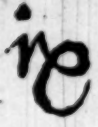
And so proceeding higher.

If it be an Ounce
worse he will
write, ——— } *Worse* j

If it be an Ounce }
and a half penny }
weight worse, he } *Worse j ob.*
will write, ——— }


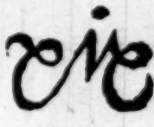
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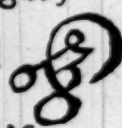
If it be an Oun.
and 9 penny
weight worse
he will write,

Worse j  *dwt.* 

Note, That
[dwt] sig-
nifies penny
weight,

If it be an
Ounce &
19 penny
wt. worse
he will
write,—

Worse j  *dwt.* 

and 
signifies
Ounce.

And so proceeding higher according
as he finds the Silver courser, and with
Numeral Letters setting down what
'tis worse then Starling or Standard.

And it must be observed, what-
ever weight he sets down, it is to be
accounted so much in every pound or
twelve Ounces Troy, and comes to this
effect (viz) that for every twenty
penny weight, or ounce Troy, that 'tis
reported worse than Standard, you
must account six pence, and so propor-
tionable for more or less; for so much
it will cost for every ounce of such
course Silver to make it of Starling
goodness, or to change it for Starling.
When

See more
Examples
of Allays
of Silver,
and the va-
lue thereof
cast up, in
the Cata-
logue of
Forraign
Coyns, at
the latter
end insert-
ed.

When you have so done, and your Silver being found and reported worſe then Starling, you may make your complaint to the Maſter Warden of the Goldſmiths, he will cauſe the offender (living in or about *London*) to be Summoned to appear at the next Court of the ſaid Company, and upon evidence of the Fact, the Wardens will (being obliged thereto by Law) procure you recompence, and puniſh the offender; they having promiſed ſo to do in their late Precept hereafter inſerted.

If you diſlike that way of proceeding, you may go by way of Action of Debt, Bill, Plaint, or Information, at the ſuit of the party grieved, who may ſue in any of the Courts of Record at *Westminſter*, and thereby recover the value of the whole deceitful or adulterated Wares, together with his charges, according to the ſaid Statute of 18 *Eliz.*

There are alſo other ways of proceeding in theſe caſes, as the afore mentioned Statutes do plainly direct.

And

And that the persons agrieved may be the better encouraged to proceed for their recompence, and to punish the offenders, I have here inserted a true Coppy of an Indictment in Latin, and the same rendred into English, taken out of the Original (now remaining of Record in the *Crown-Office*) that was preferred (in *Trinity* Term, in the 28 year of the Reign of King *Charles* the Second &c.) before the Grand-Jury of Enquest (attending the *Kings-Bench* Court at *Westminster*) against a Person-offender in the premisses ; which Bill (being drawn up, and this way of proceeding contrived by the advice of several Counsel learned in the Law) may serve (with some little variations, as occasion may be) for a good president in the like Cases.

Per

Per Jud' Trin' xxviij.
Car' Secundi Regis.

Midd' ff. **J**urē p Dñō
Rege super
Sacram suum presen-
tant qd' A. B. nup de
paroch' S^ce M. in
Com' p^o Aurifabac
qui educat' fuit in arte
Aurifabrorum ac p^otres
Annos & amplius jam
ult' elaps' eandem ar-
tem apud paroch' p^oed'
in Com' p^oedict' exer-
cuit ac p totum idem
tempus ib' in fuit liber
homo Dⁱst^ricti Aurifa-
brozū Civitat' London'
ac quamplurima Vasa
& al' res ex argento
confect' p^otextu artis
sue p^oedib' in fecit & fi-
eri causabit ac dⁱvers
ligeis dicti Dñi Reg. s
nunc ibidem Vendidit
& Venditioni exposuit

Midd' ff. **T**He Jury
for our
Soveraign Lord the
King upon their Oath
do present, That *A.B.*
late of the Parish of
St. Martin in the Fields
in the County afore-
said, Goldsmith, who
was brought up in the
Trade of a Goldsmith,
And for three years
and more now last
past hath exercised the
same Trade within the
Parish aforesaid in the
County aforesaid, And
for all that time there,
was a Freeman of the
Mystery of Goldsmiths
of the City of *London*,
And there by colour
of his said Trade made
and caused to be made

Ac

Ac qd' idem A.B. bene
 sciens qd' omnia Vasa
 & al' res ex argento
 confectæ & p homines
 Ministerij Aurifabrorum
 Civitat' London' ven-
 ditioni expōit et expo-
 nend infra Civitat' p'd
 & alibi debent fieri
 undequaq [Anglicè
 wholly] de bono & ve-
 ro Argento concordant
 cum Standard' Sancti
 dicti Domini Regis et
 aut venditionem eo-
 rundem debeant assai-
 ari [Anglicè be assay-
 ed] & signari [Anglicè
 marked] cum Insigni
 [Anglicè the mark]
 Capitis Pardis [An-
 glisce voc' the Leopards
 Head] per Custod' Mi-
 nisterij Aurifabrorū Ci-
 vitat' London' Quib'
 Custod' Insigni ill' ad
 signand Vasa & al res
 de Auro & Argento

very many Vessels and
 other things of Silver,
 and there sold and ex-
 posed to sale to divers
 liege People of our said
 Sovereign Lord the
 King that now is; And
 that the said A.B. well
 knowing that all Ves-
 sels and other things
 made of Silver, and
 exposed and set to sale
 by men of the Mystery
 of Goldsmiths of the
 City of *London* within
 the City aforesaid and
 elsewhere, ought to
 be made wholly of
 good and true Silver a-
 greeing with the Stan-
 dard of the Exche-
 quer of our said Sove-
 reign Lord the King;
 And ought before the
 sale thereof to be as-
 sayed and marked by
 the Wardens of the
 Mystery of Goldsmiths
 Con-

Concordantiam Standard predicto confectam ante eorundem venditionem legitime creditur Idem tamen A. B. existens persona male & in honeste dispositionis ac machinans nequit & fraudulentus intendens ligeos & subditos dicti Domini Regis nunc falso illicitè deceptive callide & subdole decipere & defraudare & leges huius Regni Angl' subvertere vicesimo primo die Januarij Anno Regni Domini nostri Caroli Secundi Dei Gratia Angl' Scot' Franc' & Hibern' Regis Fidei Defensoris &c. Vicesimo septimo apud Paroch' S^ce M. in Com' pred' sexaginta fibul' cingulat' [Anglice coit' vocat' draw

of the City of *London* with the mark of the *Leopards* Head; which Wardens are lawfully entrusted with the Mark to mark Vessels and other things made of Gold and Silver agreeing with the Standard aforesaid before the sale thereof: Nevertheless the said *A.B.* being a person of an evil and dishonest disposition, and evilly devising and fraudulently intending the Liege People and Subjects of our said Sovereign Lord the King that now is, falsely, unlawfully, deceitfully, craftily and subtilly to deceive and defraud, and to subvert the Laws of this Kingdom of *England*, On the one and twentieth day of Girdle

Girdle Buckles] & octo
 fibul' Calcear coif'
 Shooe Buckles de im-
 puro & viliori Argento
 quam debet esse de ar-
 gent' mīe concordān
 cum Standard' p'dicto
 videlicet octodecim Des-
 nat' in qualibet Uncia
 inde Allozūm quam
 Argent' cum standard'
 p'dicto concordān fal-
 so fraudulent' & scient'
 confect' & fabricabit
 Ac illa sic confect' &
 fabricat' ante aliquam
 Assaiacōnem seu signa-
 cōnem eozundem per
 Custod' Mysterij Auri-
 fabrozūm Civitat' Lon-
 don' p'ed' seu eozūm
 alterius postea scilicet
 dēo vicesimoprimo die
 Januarij Anno regni
 dicti Domini Regis
 nunc vicesimoseptimo
 supradicto apud Pa-
 roch' sancte M. in Com'

January, in the Se-
 ven and twentieth
 year of the Reign of
 our Sovereign Lord
Charles the Second, by
 the Grace of God
 of *England, Scotland,*
France and *Ireland*
 King, Defender of the
 Faith, &c. at the Parish
 of *St. Martin* in the
 Fields in the County
 aforesaid, falsely, frau-
 dulently, and know-
 ingly, did make and fa-
 shion Threescore draw
 Girdle Buckles, and
 eight Shooe Buckles
 of impure and baser
 Silver than it ought
 to be, not agreeing
 with the Silver of the
 Standard aforesaid,
 that is to say, Eighteen
 pence in every Ounce
 thereof worser than
 the Silver agreeing
 with the Standard a-
 p'ed

predict ut res ex Ar-
gento undequaq; con-
fect de bono & vero
Argento concordant cū
Standard predicto fal-
so illicite deceptivē &
fraudulent venditioni
exposuit ac diversis li-
geis dicti Domini Re-
gis nunc Jurē predictis
ignot adtunc & ibidem
venditioni exposuit &
vendidit in contemptū
dicti Domini Regis
nunc legumq; suarū
Ad grave dampnum &
manifestam decep-
tionem ligearū predict
qui hujusmodi fibulas
cingula & fibul Cal-
ceat emet In malum
Exemplum omnium
aliorū in consilii casu
delinquent ac contra
pacem dñi Dñi Regis
nunc Coronā & Digni-
tatē suas &c.

foresaid; And those
things so made and
fashioned before any
assay or mark of the
same by the Wardens
of the Mystery of Gold-
smiths of the City of
London aforesaid, or
either of them, After-
wards, that is to say,
on the same One and
twentieth day of *Ja-
nuary*, in the aforesaid
Seven and twentieth
year of the Reign of
our said Sovereign the
King that now is, at
the Parish of *St. Mar-
tin* in the Fields in the
County aforesaid, as
things made wholly
of good and true Sil-
ver agreeing with the
Standard aforesaid,
falsely, unlawfully,
deceitfully, and frau-
dulently exposed to
sale; And then and
there.

there exposed to sale and sold to divers Liege People of our said Sovereign Lord the King that now is, unknown to the Jury aforesaid, In contempt of our said Sovereign Lord the King that now is, and of his Laws, To the great damage and manifest deceit of the said Liege People who bought the said draw-Girdles-Buckles, and Shooe-Buckles, to the evil Example of all others offending in the like case, Against the Peace of our said Sovereign Lord the King that now is, his Crown and Dignity.

And since these Directions are so plain, 'tis pity but he should be cheated that will not use them for prevention, or to get recompence when deceived.

And my further Advice is, That every person be careful to buy no Silver Work but what is marked as the Laws require; and if that proves naught, recompence is easily had; either of the Company (if marked with their Marks, which (by reason of the

E

care

care taken therein) are not set on Silver, worse than Standard, in the compass of my Experience,) or the Maker or Seller by his Mark will be easily found out whereby to obtain recompence of him.

And in case of haste, where the Buyer cannot stay for the Companies Marks, I advise him to take care that he know the Workman to be able and honest, and his Mark upon every part of the Work that is wrought asunder, and afterwards soldered together as afore said.

It is queried by some, Whether it be Lawful for a Goldsmith to work Gold or Silver, that is worse than Standard, if it be brought by the person, that is to receive it again, when wrought up into Wares; or to work it when 'tis bespoke so to be, by the person that will receive it when so made up?

To

To which I answer by way of Caution and Advice,

That it is positively against the the Laws afore recited to work Silver or Gold, that is worse than Standard, into any sort of Work under any pretence or colour whatsoever; and all such Wares be utterly unlawful, although the Worker do receive course Silver to work for another, or receive but the just value thereof; yet if it be sold or bartered to others, and happen to be questioned, both the Maker and Seller will be liable, and may be punished as the Laws appoint.

The best Excuse that can be made in these cases is, That such course Work is for the bringers or bespeakers own wearing: If that be true, the danger is the less, because the Worker lyes open only to one; But his Wisdome would be the greater, not to lay himself open to any.

Upon what is here declared, It is
E 2 hoped

hoped no person will suffer themselves to be deluded with the pretences of the Seller of unmarked and suspected Silver Work, (*viz.*)

That the Work will not bear the Marks as before is mentioned; for 'tis manifest and well known by great experience, That all Silver Works comprehended under the name of *Vessels*, and under the name of *Harness*, (Hilts for Swords and Buckles being included under that denomination) will bear the Marks appointed with as much conveniency as need to be desired, for the Vessels are generally marked with the bigger Marks aforesaid without exception; and for Silver Hilts and Buckles, (wherein the difficulty is supposed to lie) they have small Marks made on purpose for them, and the Work being first marked by the Worker with marks of Ink thus (o) on every place where the Workman thinks it most convenient to bear the Companies Marks; And the hollow Work being filled with Lead, (which is afterwards to be melted out again)

again) the Wardens will, or may, some on the Anvil, and some on other Lead which is put into a Vice for that purpose, strike their Marks on those places, both of wrought and plain Work, without defacing or hurting the same.

Nor need any person be deluded by pretence that the Workmen have not time to get it marked at Goldsmiths Hall, when if the Work be carried to the Office on any of the Assay dayes aforesaid, before the hour of Nine in the Morning, they may (if it be good Silver) have it out ready marked at 4. of the Clock in the Afternoon the same day.

Or by pretence that the Work will be so abused by the striking thereon the Companies Marks, that it cannot be finished Workman-like; which indeed is one principal Excuse for not bringing their Work to receive the Companies Marks.

Neither let the supposition that the

 E 3 Servants

Servants of the Company's Officers will abuse the Bringer or Owner of the Work either in word or demeanour (though some have heretofore been too rude and malipert) deter any from bringing their Works for the Company's Marks; for certain it is, the Wardens will not allow but severely reprehend their Officers and Servants that shall abuse any person or Work whatsoever.

And if the Wardens refuse to set their Marks, or not set them as they ought; or if they (or their Officers or Servants) shall do any damage to the Work by striking the marks, an Action well lyes against them; and they are besides by Law otherwise punishable and compellable to strike their Marks as Workman-like on the Work, as the Maker strikes his own mark thereon.

Nor let the Buyer suffer himself to be deluded at any time upon pretence that Standard Gold or Silver is too soft, and not so serviceable as that which is courser: For that pretence is
vain,

vain, and 'tis well known by great experience, That both Gold and Silver of the Standard goodness well wrought, into any sorts of Wares, is in every respect better and more serviceable than a courser allay, which most times by reason of the adulteration, is found in the wearing not onely of a brassy complexion, but very brittle and rotten.

Neither let the pretence of the Seller of adulterated Wares delude you, (*viz.*) That he abates as much in the fashion as the Silver is allayd worse than Standard; when 'tis well known, that most times for every 6 *d.* he abates in the fashion of such course Silver Work, he gains 1 *s.* 6 *d.* or 2 *s.* or more by the allay in such Work.

Or by his promise, That he will at any time allow five shillings the Ounce for the silver again, though it be broken to pieces: For by experience it is evident, That very few Silver Wares come again to be sold to the same hand, many being either kept to poste-

rity, or transferred by gift; and if necessity induce a sale, it is most commonly in some place remote from the place where it was bought, and then they must take what they can get for it; which (if unmarked Wares) will not be more than 'tis worth.

I have made but little mention of GoldWares, and of the provision made, to prevent deceit therein, because Gold Wares are much less common than Silver Wares, I shall therefore only propose, That by the same ways and method, by which you make discovery of the goodness or badness of Silver, you may also make discovery of the goodness or badness of Gold, and recover recompence if wronged, and punish the Offenders; only with this difference, (*viz.*) That as the whitest Silver is the best, so the Gold of the deepest yellow is the best; and the more the Gold inclining to a red or a pale yellow, 'tis so much the courser.

And as the Assay-Master in his reports

ports of the goodness of Silver sets it down by half-penny weights, and penny weights, and Ounces Troy, so in his report of a Gold assay he sets it down by Carraets and Carraet-grains, and half-grains.

For the understanding of which you are to know, That five of the Troy grains makes a Carraet-grain, and four of such Carraet-grains makes one Carraet, and twenty and four of such Carraets, makes one Ounce Troy.

So that if Standard Gold be worth four pound the Ounce, for every carraet he sets down 'tis worse, you must account that in the Ounce Troy 'tis worse by so many times 3 s. 8 d. And for every grain he sets down 'tis worse, you must account it worse by so many times 11 d. in the Ounce Troy. And for every demy or half grain, 5 d. ob. for so much it will cost to make it of Standard goodness, or to change it for Standard.

The manner of the Paper for a Gold assay,

assay, and the Assay-Masters report thereof is also expressed in the Copper Cutt aforesaid.

And further you are to know, That twenty and two of the aforesaid Car-rects of the finest Gold, and two Car-rects of fine Copper and Silver equal parts, makes an Ounce of Gold of the allay, appointed (by the Stat. of 18 of *Eliz.* 15. afore cited) to be the Standard for all Gold Wares, (worse than which allay no Wares are to be made, upon the penalty therein mentioned.)

And that 12 grains Troy is enough for making an assay of Gold.

But if any shall be dis-satisfyed with the assayings and reports of the Assay-Master of Goldsmiths Hall, may have assayes made by His Majestie's sworn Assay-Master of his Mint in the *Tower of London.*

Concerning Silver Work, made remote from *London*, I shall only insert,
that

that it is to be observed, That by the first recited Statute, all the Goldsmiths in *England*, were appointed to bring all their Silver Work (comprehended under the name of Vessels) to *London*, to be there assayed and marked with the *Leopards Head*; but the compelling thereof, under such great penalties as are therein mentioned, were found to be a grievance: Therefore by the Statute of 2 *Hen. 6.* 14. for the better conveniency of the Goldsmiths remote from *London*, Seven places are appointed wherein such Work shall be assayed and marked, (*viz.*)

York, Newcastle upon Tine, Lincoln, Norwich, Bristow, Salisbury, and Coventry.

And as the Wardens of the Goldsmiths, *London*, are to assay and mark the Silver Work that is made in and about *London*, and three miles of the same, or to procure an Artist to do the same, (for which they must answer) so, in every one of the aforesaid Seven several places, the Chief Magistrate or Gover-

Governour is to assay and mark the Silver Work that is made therein, or to procure an Artist to do the same, (for which they must also answer.)

And in like manner as every Master-worker in *Goldsmiths Works in London*, and 3. miles compass of the same, are to make their Marks known to the Wardens of the *Goldsmiths*, so every Master-Worker in Gold and Silver in every of the said Seven Places, are to make their Marks known to the Surveyors there (that is) to the Chief Magistrate of such Place: But what the particular Marks that the respective chief Governours of these Seven several Places set on the Silver work, I can give no certain accompt thereof.

But this I can assert, That by reason the Marks of those Places are little known, they bear as little credit, and therefore the *Goldsmiths* in remote places do frequently send up their Silver work to receive the *London Touch*.

Here

Here followeth the Goldsmiths

CHARTER truly rendred into
*English from the Copy thereof taken
from the Record now remaining in
the Chappel of the Rolls, under the
Title Confirmation, Part the se-
cond, Number the fourth, Confirmed
in the second Year of King James.*

THE KING to all whom &c.
sendeth Greeting. We have per-
used and seen the Letters Patents of
Confirmation of our Most Dear Sister
the Lady *Elizabeth* late Queen of
England, made in these words, *Eliza-
beth* by the Grace of God of *England*,
France and *Ireland*, Queen, Defender
of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these
present Letters Patents shall come,
Greeting.

We have perused the Letters Pa-
tents of Confirmation of the Lady
Mary late Queen of *England*, Our Most
Dear

Dear Sister, made in these words, *Mary* by the Grace of God of *England, France* and *Ireland*, Queen, Defender of the Faith, and on Earth over the *English* and *Irish* Church the Supream Head, To all to whom these presents shall come, Greeting.

We have perused the Letters Patents of Confirmation of Our Dear Brother *Edward* the Sixth, late King of *England*, made in these words, *Edward* the Sixth by the Grace of God of *England, France* and *Ireland*, King, Defender of the Faith, and on Earth over the *English* and *Irish* Church, Supream Head, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting.

We have perused the Letters Patents of Confirmation of our Most Dear Father, *Henry* the Eighth, late King of *England* of Famous Memory, made in these words, *Henry* by the Grace of God King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting.

We

We have perused the Letters Patents of Confirmation of our Most Dear Father *Henry* the Seventh, Late King of *England* of Famous Memory, made in these words, *Henry* by the Grace of God King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting.

Know Ye, That We have perused the Letters Patents of *Edward* the Fourth, Late King of *England*, made in these words, *Edward* by the Grace of God King of *England* and *France*, Lord of *Ireland*, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, Greeting.

We have perused the Letters Patents of *Edward* the Third, Late King of *England*, Our Progenitor, made in these words:

Edward by the Grace of God King of *England*, Lord of *Ireland*, and Duke of *Aquitaine*, To all to whom these present Letters shall come, greeting.

Our Welbeloved the Goldsmiths of
Our

Our City of London by their Petition exhibited to Us and Our Councel in Our Parliament holden at Westminster after the Feast of the Purification of Our Lady last past, have shewn,

That whereas no private Merchant nor Stranger heretofore were wont to bring into this Land any Honey Coined, but Plate of Silver to exchange for Our Coyn.

And that it had been also Ordained, That all those who were of the Goldsmiths Trade were to sit in their shops in the High-Street of Cheap, and that no Silver in Plate, nor Vessel of Gold or Silver ought to be sold in the City of London, except at Our Exchange, or in Cheapside among the Goldsmiths, and that publickly, to the end the persons of the said Trade might Inform themselves whether the Seller came Lawfully by such Vessel or not.

But that now of late the said Merchants as well Private as Strangers, do bring from forraign Countries into
this

this Nation Counterfeit Sterling, whereof the pound is not worth above sixteen Shillings of the right Sterling, and of this Honey none can know the true Value, but by melting it down.

And also that many of the said Trade of Goldsmiths keep Shops in obscure turnings, and by-Lanes and Streets, and do buy Vessels of Gold and Silver secretly, without enquiring if such Vessel were stoln or lawfully come by, and immediately melting it down, do make it into Plate and sell it to Merchants Trading beyond Sea, that it may be exported, and so they make false Work of Gold and Silver, as Bracelets, Locketts, Rings and other Jewels; in which they set Glass of divers Colours, Counterfeiting right stones, and put more Alloy in the silver than they ought, which they sell to such as have no skill in such things.

And that the Cutlers in their Work-houses cover Tin with Silver so subtilly and with such sleight, that the same cannot be discerned and severed from
F the

the Tin, and by that means they sell the Tin so covered for fine Silver, to the great damage and deceit of Us and Our People.

Whereupon the said Goldsmiths have Petitioned Us, That We would be pleased to apply convenient remedy therein.

And We being willing to prevent the said Evil, Do by and with the Assent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, and the Commons of Our Realm for the Common profit of Us and Our People, Will and grant for for Us, and Our Heirs,

That henceforth no Merchant either private or stranger, shall bring into this Land any sort of Money, But only Plate of fine Silver, nor that any Gold or Silver wrought by Goldsmiths, or any Plate of Silver be sold to the Merchant to sell again, and to be carried out of the Kingdom But shall be sold at Our said Exchange, or openly among the said Goldsmiths

smiths for private use onely.

And that none that pretend to be of the same Trade shall keep any Shop but in Cheapside, that it may be seen that their Work be good and right.

And that those of the said Trade may by vertue of these presents elect honest, lawful and sufficient men best skilled in the said Trade, to enquire of the matters aforesaid; and that they so chosen may upon due consideration of the said Craft reform what defects they shall find therein, and thereupon inflict due punishment upon the Offenders, and that by the help and assistance of the Mayor and Sheriffs if occasion be.

And that in all Trading Cities and Towns in England where Goldsmiths reside, the same Ordinance be observed as in London, and that one or two of every such City or Town for the rest of that Trade shall come to London to be ascertained of their Touch of Gold, and there to have a Stamp of a Pun-

chion with a Leopard's Head marked upon their Mark as of ancient time it has been Ordained. In Witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents. Given at Westminster the Thirtieth day of March, in the first year of Our Reign.

We have also perused the Letters Patents of *Richard* the Second after the Conquest, late King of *England*, made in these words, *Richard* by the Grace of God King of *England* and *France*, and Lord of *Ireland*, To all to whom these presents shall come, greeting. Know Ye,

That whereas *Edward* our Grandfather late King of *England*, at the Suit of the Goldsmiths of our City of *London* suggesting to him, how that many persons of that Trade by Fire and the smoke of Quicksilver, had lost their sight, and that others of them by their working in that Trade, became so Crazyed and Infirm, That they were disabled to subsist, but by Relief from others.

And that divers of the said City
Com-

Compassionating the Condition of such, were disposed to give and grant divers Tenements and Rents in the said City to the value of Twenty pounds *per Annum* to the Company of the said Craft, towards the maintenance of the said Blind, Weak, and Infirm; And also of a Chaplain to Celebrate Mass amongst them every day for the Souls of all the Faithful departed, according to the Ordinance in that behalf to be made, Did by his Letters Patents for the Consideration of a Fine of Ten Marks, for himself and his Heirs, as much as in him lay, grant and give Licence to the Men of the Community aforesaid, that they may purchase Tenements and Rents in the same City of the value of Twenty pounds *per Annum* and not above of the Men of that City, for relief and maintenance of such blind and infirm, and of such Chaplain as aforesaid, to hold to them and their Successors of the said Society for ever, for the purposes aforesaid, The Statute of *Mortmain* or any other Statute or Ordinance to the contrary thereof notwithstanding,

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withstanding, as in and by the said Letters Patents more fully and at large it may appear.

And forasmuch as the Men of the said Mystery have humbly Petitioned Us, That forasmuch as Our Grand-fathers said Letters Patents are not nor can be put in execution for want of Naming Persons capable therein, That We would Graciously provide some remedy for them in this behalf. We taking the Premisses into Consideration, of Our especial Grace, and for the Consideration of Twenty Marks by them paid unto Us in Our Hana-per,

Have for Us and Our Heirs, granted and given Licence to the men of the said Craft, That from henceforth they be a perpetual Community or Society of themselves.

And that the said Society or Company may for ever yearly Elect out of themselves four Wardens to oversee, rule and duly govern the said Craft,
and

and Community, and every Member of the same.

And further, We have according to Our Authority in this behalf granted and given Licence for Us and Our Heirs to the same Wardens and Company, That they may purchase and have to them and their Successors, Tenements and Rents, with their Appurtenances, within the said City and Suburbs thereof to the value of Twenty pounds *per annum*, for the maintenance of the blind, weak and infirm Men of the Company aforesaid, and of a Chaplain to Celebrate Mass amongst the said infirm, every day, for the Souls of all the Faithful departed, forever, according to such Ordinance, As the same Wardens and Company shall make in this behalf, (the said Statute, or the Statute in that case made in Our last Parliament at *Westminster*, notwithstanding,) or notwithstanding that the said Tenements and Rents be held of Us in Free Burgage, so that it be found by Inquisition thereupon duly had and returned into our *Chancery*,

that such purchase may be made without any damage or prejudice to Us and Our Heirs, or any other person whatsoever, *In witness* whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made Patents, *Witness* Our Self at *Winchester* the Sixth day of *February*, in the Sixteenth Year of Our Reign.

And We ratifying and allowing the said Letters Patents, and all and every thing therein contained, do for Us and Our Heirs according to Our Power in that behalf Approve and Confirm the same, and do by these presents grant and Confirm the same unto Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the said Craft and their Successors for ever.

And of Our further Grace in this behalf, We for Us and Our Heirs, have granted to the same Wardens and Company, That notwithstanding they or their Predecessors have not hitherto upon any occasion in any sort used the Liberties in the said Letters Patents contained, Yet henceforth it shall

shall be Lawful for them and their Successors to Use and Enjoy the said Liberties and every of them, without any Let or Impediment by or from Us or Our Heirs, or any of Our Justices, Escheators, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, or other Our Ministers where-soever.

And We have further granted, and by these presents do for Us and Our Heirs Grant to the said now Wardens and Company of the Craft aforesaid, That they and their Successors be a Corporation or Body Incorporate, consisting and called by the Names of Wardens and Company, and be persons able and capable in Law to purchase and take Lands and Tenements, Rents and other Possessions whatsoever, for ever in Fee-simple of any persons whomsoever that shall be willing to Give, Devise, or Assign the same to them.

To have and to hold the same to the said Wardens and Company of the said Craft, and their Successors for ever. And

And that they may and shall have perpetual Succession and a Common Seal for the Affairs of their said Mystery.

And that they may by the name of the Wardens and Company of the Mystery of Goldsmiths of the City of *London* Implead and be Impleaded in any Court and place whatsoever, before any Judges whomsoever, in any Actions, Suits, Complaints, Demands and Pleas as well real as personal or mixt of what nature or kind soever they be.

And that the said Wardens and Company and their Successors, may from time to time as often as they shall judge it expedient, make good and reasonable By-Laws and Ordinances for the better regulating the said Mystery,

We have also granted, and by these presents do grant to the said now Wardens and Company and their Successors, That they may have and hold
to

to them and their Successors for ever,
all and singular the Lands, Tenements,
Rents, Reversions and Services here-
tofore given, granted or devised to
the Wardens of the Mystery aforesaid,
or to the Wardens or Guardians and
Company of the Mystery aforesaid, by
the Name of the Wardens and Com-
pany of the said Mystery, or by the
names of the Company of the said
Mystery, or by what other Name so-
ever or heretofore in any manner pur-
chased by the Wardens and Company
of the said Mystery, or by the Com-
pany of the said Mystery, without Im-
peachment, Disturbance or Let by or
from Us or Our Heirs, or by or from
Our Justices, Sheriffs, Escheators, or
other the Officers and Ministers of Us
or Our Heirs whomsoever.

And We do hereby ratifie and con-
firm all and every the same Lands and
Tenements, Rents, Reversions, and
Services to the said now Wardens and
Company, and their Successors.

And for the Credit of the Men of
the

the said Craft dwelling and residing in the said City for the time being, and for the preventing and avoiding the damage and loss which do or may daily happen and arise as well to Us as to any Our Liege People, for want of a due and provident Care in regulating certain of Our Subjects and others Using and Exercising the said Trade, *without any regard to the Credit* of the said Company, And also for the preventing and taking away Subtleties and *Deceits practised in the said Trade,*

We have further granted, and by these Presents do grant to the said now Wardens and Company and their Successors for ever, That the Wardens of the said Mystery for the time being shall and may for ever have the *search, inspection, tryal and regulation* of all sorts of Gold and Silver wrought or to be wrought, and to be exposed to sale within the City of *London* and the Suburbs thereof, and in all Fairs and Markets, and all Cities, Towns and Boroughs, and all other places whatsoever *throughout Our Kingdom of England,*

gland, and also shall and may *have power to punish* and correct all defects that shall be found in the working of Gold and Silver.

And to that end, if need be, to call to their assistance the Mayor and Sheriffs of the said City, and the Mayors and Bayliffs or other Officers whatever in any Fairs, Markets, Cities, Boroughs and Towns, and other places out of the said City where any such Search or Tryal shall happen to be made.

And that the Wardens of the said Mystery for the time being shall and may have full Power and Authority for ever by themselves or any of them, duly to search and try all and singular the premisses, and also all manner of Work touching and concerning the said Craft, found or being in the hands of the Goldsmiths, *or any other whomsoever* selling, making or working any Wares or Works pertaining to or concerning the said Mystery, as well within Our said City of *London* and the Suburbs

Suburbs thereof, as elsewhere out of the said City in all Fairs, Markets, Cities, Boroughs and Towns, and other places whatsoever throughout Our Realm of *England*; And also by themselves or any of them to *break* all such deceitful Works and Wares of Gold and Silver of what sort soever, if any such they shall find to be made, wrought and exposed to sale in deceit of Our People.

And also according to their discretion and as often as they shall see it necessary to punish and correct the Makers, Sellers and Workers of the same Works according to their demerits, by the assistance (if need be) of Our Mayors, Sheriffs, Bayliffs, Reeves, and other such like Officers.

We also will and grant, and strictly Charge and Command, That all Bayliffs, Reeves, and other Officers whatsoever in Fairs, Markets, Cities, Boroughs, Towns and other places where such Search shall happen to be made, be ready to Ayd and Assist the said Wardens

Wardens and every of them making such Search as aforesaid, in the execution of the premisses, and that in all things according to their Duty. In witness whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents. Witness Our Self at *Leicester* the Thirtieth day of *May* in the Second Year of Our Reign.

And now We ratifying and approving the said Letters Patents, and all things therein contained, do for Us and Our Heirs according to Our Authority therein, allow the same, and by these presents do ratifie, grant and confirm the same to our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery aforesaid and their Successors.

And further, We being certainly informed that divers persons both Natives and Aliens, exercising the said Trade in divers parts of this Kingdom, studying and contriving their own dishonest Gain, and purposing by various ways to deceive and endamage the

A Touchstone for Gold

the rest of our Subjects, do work and expose to sale Gold and Silver *cunningly and deceitfully wrought and debased more than the Standard allowes*, contrary to the Ordinances in that behalf made.

And *Counterfeit-stones* (which are of no value, cunningly set in such kind of Gold and Silver) do daily sell for true Jewels at great rates to divers of Our Subjects (not understanding the same) as well in places priviledged, as in Fairs, Markets and other places within Our Cities and Burroughs of this Our Kingdom of *England*, and neither fear nor doubt to be punished or call'd in question for the same.

And the reason is, for that due search or any due punishment is seldom executed upon Offenders in that Mystery out of the City aforesaid.

And although the Wardens of that Mystery in the said City for the time being, have (by vertue and power of the aforesaid Letters Patents in form
afore-

aforesaid granted to them and their Successors (had the search, inspection, tryal and regulation of the Gold and Silver so wrought and to be wrought and exposed to Sale, And power by themselves or any of them, to search and try (continually from the aforesaid 30th day of *May* in the said Second year of the late King *Edward* the Fourth hitherto by vertue of his said Letters Patents to them in that behalf made) all such kind of deceitful and fraudulent Works and Wares made and to be made of the Gold and Silver aforesaid of any kind whatsoever.

And the faults and deceits in those Works deceitfully and subtilly contrived or to be contrived by the Workmen and contrivers thereof, to punish and correct, as also to execute and perform such other things as they ought to do by vertue of the aforesaid Letters Patents of the said late King *Edward* the Fourth;

Nevertheless as We are informed,
That notwithstanding the aforesaid

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Wardens of the said Mystery for the time being have (ever since the afore-said Grants to them and the Company of the said Mystery in form afore-said made) been at great trouble and charges (as well at their own proper Costs, as at the Costs of the said Company) to put in execution their Authority of searching, inspecting and trying such kind of Gold and Silver (as is before mentioned) and the defects therein, so wrought and put to sale by the Workmen of the said Trade in divers of the Cities, Burroughs, Fairs, Markets and other places of this Our Kingdom, for the common use of Us and of all Our good Subjects.

Yet they have received very little or no profit thereby, but rather have been subject oftentimes not onely to pains and perils of their bodies, but also to the loss of their Goods and Chattels by reason and occasion of their searching, trying, and putting in execution their Authority aforesaid, in punishing and correcting the defects of Work upon proof thereof made unto them,

By

By means whereof the said Wardens of late in regard of the great menaces and assaults which they have received from those Workmen and Tradesmen of that Mystery (that deceitfully sell such Gold and Silver in the Countrey) and their Accomplices and Adherents, could not execute their said Authority any where within Our Kingdom of *England*, except within Our said City of *London* and the Suburbs thereof.

So that the said search, tryal and execution of the said Authority ceasing, very many frauds, deceits, works unskilfully made of Gold and Silver, and of counterfeiting of Jewels in Works of Gold and Silver and otherwise, are daily divers wayes increased in the Mystery aforesaid, by the Workmen of the said Trade in every part of this Our Kingdom, to the great loss and detriment of Us and all Our Liege People,

And We being willing (all the deceitful insufficient and unlawful
G 2 Works

Works and Wares of Gold and Silver Jewels and Stones, Pearl or Coral, or such like, in the Trade aforesaid insufficiently and unlawfully made and counterfeited used to be put to sale) to abolish and punish in all things as it ought to be, Of Our certain knowledg and meer motion, Have given and granted for Us and Our Heirs (as much as in Us lyes) to the aforesaid Wardens and Company of the Mystery aforesaid and their Successors,

That they the said Wardens and their Successors, and every of them for the time being, shall have for ever full Power and Authority over all and singular the Defects, Offences, Faults and Deceits made and attempted or committed contrary to the Ordinances of the Mystery aforesaid in all their searches and tryals of Gold and Silver, or of Wares, Jewels, Stones, Pearl, Coral, or of any other Jewels or Counterfeit Stones whatsoever wrought or set in Gold or Silver, as in Neck-laces, Locketts, Rings or Bracelets, or otherwise howsoever wrought or set, within

in this Our Kingdom of *England* wheresoever, against the Workmen or Owners of any of the said premisses exposing them to sale.

And all and every the persons of or using the said Mystery whatsoever so deceitfully working, having, or exposing to sale the premisses aforesaid, (upon due proof made) shall be by the said Wardens for the time being committed to the next Gaol or Prison, therein to be punished by Imprisonment of their Bodies according to the nature of their Offences, and out of the saids Gaols or Prisons to be delivered at the discretions of the said Wardens or any of them; Or be punished by Fines to be set and imposed upon such Delinquents, equal to their Offences, Faults and Deceipts, as by the sound Discretions of the said Wardens or any of them for the time being shall be esteemed just and reasonable, and in that behalf convenient.

We also grant for Us and Our Heirs to the said Wardens and Company

and their Successors, That whensoever, wheresoever, and as often as any Wares of Gold and Silver or Pearl, or of any Counterfeit Stones whatsoever deceitfully wrought or set in the nature of Jewels or Pearl in Gold or Silver, which by Allays thereof are of less value and more debas'd in the working of the said Gold and Silver than of right it ought to be wrought, (that is to say) not being of the value of Sterling or Standard, (according to the Ordinances and Statutes of Us and Our Progenitors or Predecessors late Kings and Queen of *England* in this behalf made) that shall be found any where as well within any of Our Liberties as without ;

Or any Wares of Gold or Silver made within this Kingdom by any Native or Forraign Workmen & Tradesmen of the Craft aforesaid wheresoever that shall be sold or exposed to sale (*not being tryed, approved and marked as they ought to be*) according to the form of the Ordinances and Statutes aforesaid, that then the said Wardens
for

for the time being, or two of them, shall have power and Authority all and every such Wares of Gold and Silver, Counterfeit Stones and Pearls, and other Stones whatsoever (so deceitfully or unlawfully wrought and exposed to sale wheresoever they shall be found) to arrest, seise, and to break and spoyl them, so that Our People may not be any more deceived thereby.

And that in all and every the Searches of the said Wardens and their Successors for the time being, of or in the premisses from time to time in whatsoever places within Three Miles in and about the aforesaid City of *London*, where any the said Workmen or Tradesmen of the said Craft shall happen to remain, work, or inhabit, the said Wardens or any of them for the time being shall cause to be brought All manner of Works and Wares of Gold and Silver aforesaid, or what Jewels and Precious Stones soever (set in Gold and Silver) are there wrought or to be wrought, to the

Common-Hall of the Wardens and Company of the said Mystery being in the aforesaid City of *London* wherein the Common Standard or Assise of Gold and Silver (according to the Ordinances in that behalf made) is kept, there to be tryed and assayed, And to be reformed if defects shall be any manner of wayes found therein; and after they shall be so reformed, to be there then affirmed for good, and stamped with their Marks which they use for that purpose.

And all defective Works whatsoever deceitfully wrought as well of or in Gold as Silver, Counterfeit Stones put for Jewels therein and falsly made, (or found to be of a worse Allay than it ought to be) shall there (according to their discretions) be utterly condemned; Without Accompt or any other charge or Answer to Us or any of Our Heirs for the premisses or any of them to be rendred, made or paid for ever; *In witness* whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents: *Witness* Our Self
at

at *Westminster* the Third day of *February*, in the Twentieth Year of Our Reign,

Now We Ratifying and Approving the said Letters Patents, and all things therein contained, Do for Us and Our Heirs (as much as in Us lyes) allow the the same, and by these presents do Ratifie, Grant and Confirm the same to Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery afore-said. *In witness* whereof We have caused these our Letters to be made Patents, *Witness* Our Self at *Westminster* the Sixteenth day of *March*, in the First Year of Our Reign.

Now We Ratifying and Approving the said Letters Patents and all things therein contained, Do for Us and Our Heirs, as much as in Us lyes, allow the same, and by these presents do Ratifie, Grant and Confirm the same to Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery afore-said; *In witness* whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents,

A Touch-stone for Gold

Patents, *Witness* Our Self at *Westminster* the Sixth day of *June* in the First Year of Our Reign.

Now We Ratifying and Approving the said Letters Patents and all things therein contained, Do for Us and Our Heirs as much as in Us lyes, allow the same, and by these presents do ratifie, grant and confirm the same to Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery aforesaid. *In witness* whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents, *Witness* Our Self at *Westminster* the Fifth day of *December*, in the First year of Our Reign.

Now We Ratifying and Approving the said Letters Patents and all things therein contained, Do for Us and Our Heirs, as much as in Us lyes, allow the same, and by these presents do ratifie, grant and confirm the same to Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery aforesaid ; *In witness* whereof We have caused these Our Letters to be made Patents.

Wit-

and Silver Wares.

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Witness Our Self at *Westminster* the Third day of *January*, in the Third Year of Our Reign.

Now We Ratifying and Approving the said Letters Patents, and all things therein contained, Do for Us and Our Heirs, as much as in Us lyes, allow the same, and by these presents do Ratifie, Grant and Confirm the same to Our Welbeloved the now Wardens and Company of the Mystery aforesaid. *In witness* whereof, &c. *Witness* the King at *Westminster* the Thirtieth day of *March*, in the Second Year of the Reign of King *James* over *England*, &c.

THE



The Goldsmiths ORDER
lately made and set forth
for Prevention and Re-
dress of the great Abuses
committed in the several
Wares afore-mentioned.

*Goldsmiths-Hall the 23. day
of February, 1675.*

WHEREAS Complaint hath
been made to the Wardens of
the Company of Goldsmiths,
London, That divers small Works,
as Buckles for Belts, Silver Velts,
and the pieces thereto belonging with
divers other small Wares both of
Gold

Gold and Silver, are frequently wrought and put to sale by divers Goldsmiths and others, worse than Standard, to the abuse of his Majesties good Subjects, and great discredit of that Manufacture; And that there are also divers pieces of Silver Plate sold, not being assayed at Goldsmiths-Hall, and so not marked with the Leopard's Head Crowned, as by Law the same ought to be: And whereas the Wardens of the said Company to prevent the said frauds, have formerly required all persons to forbear putting to sale any adulterate Wares either of Gold or Silver, but that they cause the same forthwith to be defaced; And that as well Plate-workers as small-workers should cause their respective Marks to be brought to Goldsmiths-Hall, & there strike the same in a Table kept in the Assay-Office; And likewise enter their Names and places of Habitations in a Book there kept for that purpose, whereby the persons and their marks might be known unto the Wardens of the said Company, which having not hitherto been duly observed,

observed, These are therefore to give Notice to, and to require again all those who exercise the said Art or Mystery of Goldsmiths in or about the Cities of London and Westminster, and the Suburbs of the same, That they forthwith repair to Goldsmiths-Hall, and there strike their Marks in a Table appointed for that purpose, and likewise enter their Names, with the places of their respective dwellings, in a Book remaining in the Assay-Office there: And that as well the Worker as Shop-keeper, and all others working and Trading in Gold or Silver Wares, of what kind or quality soever they be, forbear putting to sale any of the said Works, not being agreeable to Standard, that is to say, Gold not less in fineness then two and twenty Carats, And Silver not less in fineness then eleven Dunces two penny weight; And that no person or persons do from henceforth put to sale any of the said Wares either small or great, before the Workmans Mark be struck thereon, And the same Assayed at Goldsmiths-Hall, and there approved

ved for Standard, by striking thereon the Lyon and Leopard's Head Crowned, or one of them, if the said Works will conveniently bear the same: And hereof all persons concerned are desired to take notice, and demean themselves accordingly: otherwise the Wardens will make it their Care to procure them to be proceeded against according to Law.

Touching the several Weights now in use, for the buying and selling of Gold and Silver and pretious Stones, The *Reader* may Observe,

That no other Weights are (by our Lawes) to be used in weighing Gold and Silver, but those called by the name of Troy Weights, of which

24 grains makes a penny weight, or the weight of an old Sterling penny, (which now goes for three pence.)

20 penny weight makes one ounce.
12 Ounces make a pound.

The

The compounding these Weights (being used in Assaying of Gold, and computing the Standard of Gold) are called by the name *Carracts*, of which

5 of the aforesaid grains makes a Carract-grain; a demy-grain is half of such a grain.

4 of such Carract-grains, make one Carract.

24 of such Carracts make an Ounce Troy.

There be other sorts of Carracts compounded of Troy grains, thus;


4 grains makes a Carract.

6 of such Carracts makes a penny weight.

120 of such Carracts makes an Ounce Troy; These are only used to weigh Diamonds and Pearls.

That all persons may know the difference

ference of Troy Weights from others, they are to observe that these Weights are made in the shapes, and of the Metal, and marked as hereafter is mentioned; (*viz.*)

The Grain Weights are made of pieces of thin Brass, commonly called Latin-Brass, and are cut, near 4. square, and proportioned from half a grain to six grains; and so many grains that each piece contains, it is marked with the like number of round Marks thus (o) And also on every piece is (or should be) set the letter G with a Coronet at the head of it, thus ()

The next Weights above them, are the penny Weights, which are made of thick square pieces of Brass, proportioned from a half-penny weight, to a five penny weight, and not usually higher; And so many penny-weight that each piece contains is made or marked thereon, so many round marks thus (o) as abovesaid; and also is or should be set the *Lyon* on every piece.

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The

The next above them is the Ounce-Weights, they are also of Brass, and made round in nests, (that is to say) to fall or stand one within another, And are proportioned from a drachm to 32 Ounces, and sometimes to 64 Oun-

†A drachm Troy, is one penny weight and six grains; Sixteen of such drachms make an ounce Troy: Half a quarter of an Ounce is two penny weight and 12 grains.

ces, (*viz.*) the least is a † drachm; the next half a quarter of an ounce, the next a quarter of an ounce, the next half an ounce, the next an ounce; the next two ounces, and so every one double the weight of the next lesser, and every one from an ounce upwards, are marked with numeral letters of such number, as the pieces contains Ounces, and also every Weight marked with two letters, made thus (**R**) for Troy, and are or should be marked with the *Lyon* and *Leopard's Head* Crowned.

The next Weights above them are fashioned like a Bell, and are called *Bell-Weights*, and are proportioned from one pound or 12 Ounces Troy, to 32 pounds, and sometimes higher, every

every one being double the weight of the next lesser, as before of the ounce Weights, and are or should be marked with the same Marks.

The Standard of these Weights is kept in the *Tower of London*, and also in the *Goldsmiths-Hall*, and the Officers there and none other should have the Sizing or Gauging of them, but that being accounted too chargeable, the severall Weight-makers in and about *London* do usually Size and Gauge these Weights themselves, according to the aforesaid Standard, and do set Marks on them something resembling the right; but by what authority they so do, I leave to the consideration of those immediately concerned therein.

There are other sorts of Weights, by some used amongst us, called by the name of *Venice-Weights*, and are made in nests of the same fashion, as the nests of *Troy Ounces* are, and every one double the Weight of the next

lesser, but very much differing from the Troy Weights thus, (*viz.*) as the Troy Ounce contains Twenty penny weights, so the *Venice* Ounce contains but Thirteen penny weight and a half: But there being no Law for these *Venice* Weights amongst us, only the Sellers of Gold and Silver Lace (but without any warrant or authority so to do) do too often for their private lucre, use the same. But what I have before mentioned of them, is sufficient to prevent their being used instead of the *Troy* weights.

There are also other sorts of weights (by our Law) in use amongst us, called by the name of *Averdupois* (the lesser sort of them) are made of Brass, and shaped round and flat, and every one double the weight of the next lesser, and are or ought to be Sized and Marked at *Guild-Hall, London*, (where the Standard of those Weights is kept, with several Marks, (*viz.*) the City Arms in a Shield, the Dagger, the

the Letter A for *Averdupois*, a Flower-de-luce, and the Effigies of a Vessel or Ewer. These Weights differ from the Troy Weights thus, (*viz.*) that as the Troy Ounce contains 20 penny weight, so the Ounce *Averdupois* contains but 18 penny weight; and as the pound Troy contains Twelve Ounces, so the pound *Averdupois* contains Sixteen Ounces; But these not being for the weighing Gold and Silver, what I have mentioned of them, is sufficient to distinguish them from the Troy Weights.



Postscript to the Reader.

That my good intent for preventing fraud not onely in cases where Massy Gold and Silver are used, but also in other Works made or pretended to be made thereof, may take the better effect, I shall give you another Statute still in force, made as well to suppress and prevent the gilding and silvering of Copper and Brass Works, and the deceit

*ceit therein used, as the wast-
ing the Gold and Silver of
this Nation, (viz.)*

Stat. 5. Hen. 4. 13.

Item. Whereas many fraudulent Artificers imagining to deceive the common people, do daily make Locks, Rings, Beads, Candlesticks, Harness for Girdles, Hiltts, Challes and Sword-Pummels, Powder-Boxes, and Covers for Cups, of Copper, and of Lattin, and the same over Gilt and Silver, like to Gold or Silver; And the same sell and put in gage to many Men not having full knowledg thereof for whole Gold and whole Silver, to the great deceit, loss and hinderance of the common people; And the wasting of the Gold and Silver, It is Ordained and Established, That no Artificer nor other man whatsoever be he from henceforth shall gild nor silver any such Locks, Rings, Beads, Candlesticks, Harness for
 W 4 Girdles,

Girdles, Challes, Hilts, nor Pummels for Swords, Powder-Boxes, nor Covers for Cups made of Copper or Lattin, upon pain to forfeit to the King One hundred shillings, at every time that he shall be found guilty, and to make satisfaction to the party grieved for his damages; But that (Chalices alwayes excepted) the said Artificers may work or cause to be wrought Ornaments for the Church of Copper and Lattin, And the same Gilt or Silver, so that alwayes in the foot, or in some other part of every such Ornament so to be made, the Copper and the Lattin shall be plain, to the intent that a man may see whereof the thing is made, for to eschew the deceit aforesaid.

By which Statute the Guilding or Silvering any Locks, Rings, Beads, Candlesticks, Harness (that is, the Buckles) for Girdles, Chalices, Hilts, Pummels for Swords, Powder-Boxes and Covers for Cups made of Copper or Lattin (to wit, Brass) is positively forbid, upon the penalty of 5 l. for every

every offence. And one reason thereof appears to be this, That such working of Copper or Lattin, and Covering the same with Gold or Silver, is not only a great wasting of the Gold and Silver, but the occasion of a great fraud, by making such Wares to be in appearance of the value of whole Gold and Silver, when indeed they are in the substance thereof but dross and Counterfeit. And no doubt but some persons at this day (as well as when that Statute was made) are or may be deceived by such false Counterfeit Works, and perhaps (when it is too late) experience the old Proverb to be true, *That all is not Gold that glisters.*

And it is not to be doubted, but that the Makers of that Statute were well informed that Copper or Brasse may be wrought into very many sorts of Work wherein Gold or Silver may be wrought. And because much deceit was then used in the working of Buckles, and in Hilts and Pummels for Swords, &c. as well as of Later times,
such

such severe penalties were laid on the Workers of such false Wares, purposely to suppress all Counterfeit and deceitful Work ;

Such Works being not only a wrong to the Wearer by doing little or no Service, (by reason of its brittleness, and its Kankering & stinking quality, and soon losing its Gold or Silver Colour) but also to the workers of whole Gold and whole Silver Works, who are much hindered and damnified in their Trades, by reason such false Works are made to resemble their true or right Works, and sold and worn instead thereof.

Therefore it may be reasonably conceived, that the Workers of whole Gold and whole Silver Works are intended by the said Statute, parties grieved as well as the Wearer, and shall recover satisfaction from the Offenders.

And I am well assured, that the prosecution of the offenders against
this

this Statute (which may be done by Pill, Plaint or Information) belongeth to the Wardens and Company of *Goldsmiths, London*, as well as the private agrieved party.

And the Makers and Workers of such Counterfeit Works are subjected to the Wardens and Companies power to Correct and Punish in as full and ample manner as such Workers who cover Tin with Silver mentioned in their Charter.

I Will further add something that may be useful to them that know it not, to prevent their being deceived with the Counterfeit Coyn, that (notwithstanding the great Care used by our Governors to prevent it) is continually made and vended amongst us. Wherefore they are to Observe,

First, That there is one sort of unlawful Money, that is made so, (of the
lawful

lawful Coyn) by Clipping or Filing, or both, or otherwise lightening or impairing the same.

Secondly, There is another sort of unlawful Counterfeit Money, made with the mixture of a little Silver and other baser Metal, which by artificial working, boyling and finishing, will be made much like in Countenance, and near as passable as good Money,

Thirdly, There is another sort of unlawful Money, made of solid Copper or Brasse, and covered or cased over (on the flat parts as thick as paper, and on the edges near as thick as a six pence) with good Silver, and is commonly as passable as the other.

Fourthly, There is another sort of Counterfeit Money made only of fine hardened Tin, which comes near (at first making) to the colour of good Silver Money.

For

For the knowing of these (one from another and all) from the Lawful Coyn, Note further,

Of the First, The good Silver Coyn that is clipt, filed or lessened, although thereby made unlawful, yet according as it is more or less by these ways abused, the people do receive or refuse it, as they can agree.

Of the Second, This sort, although when artificially finisht, it much resembles the proper Silver Coyn; yet it cannot be so cunningly done, but it may be discovered by its different aspect from the good; if that give cause of suspition, rub either the edge or flat part of it upon a dry board that hath gravelly or gritty matter on it, as the step of a stair, or such like; or else when the surface or out-part of the edge is a little rubb'd off, rub it on a good clean Touch-stone, as afore is directed; And if it be false, you will thereby discover it: Or else take a Goldsmith's Graver made sharp, and enter it in some part of the flat of the Money

Money as if you begun to engrave it; and in that hole or entrance (by viewing it in the light) if bad, it will appear in its yellowish colour.

Of the Third. This sort is alwayes different from the good Silver Money thus, (to wit) as the good Silver Money hath frequently (I mean the old Money) small cracks on the edges thereof, which is made by the forging it; so this sort of Counterfeit Money is generally smooth on the edges without such Cracks; and as the good Money will (being let fall or thrown flat on a solid Board) ring shrillish; so this sort of bad Money, by reason its Case of Silver cannot be so united to its body of Brasse or Copper, but it will (if let fall or thrown as aforesaid) sound like Lead, where these signs give cause of suspicion, the use of a Graver, as aforesaid, will plainly discover it.

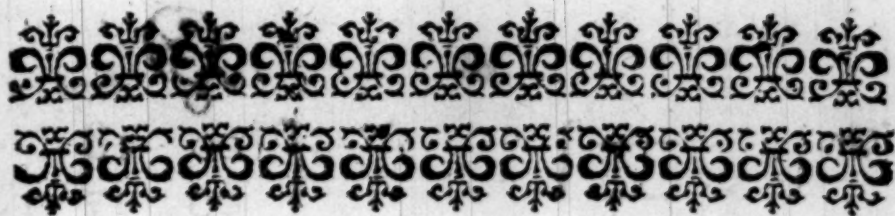
Of the Fourth. This sort is easily discovered, thus, (that is to say) it cannot be avoided but its countenance will look much duller or darker than the
the

the good Money ; and if you bite it, you may make greater impressions thereon with your teeth than on the good Coyn, for it is softer, and much easier to be bent (either between the teeth, or in some Chink or Joynt of boards) then good Money.

There may be other sorts of Counterfeit Silver Money, and other ways to discover the same. But to enlarge this Discourse on the Critick-Niceties of what is, or may be observeable therein, and the Laws in force concerning the same, would not onely swell this, but be matter for another Volume: Therefore I will only add, That Ingenuous persons, being well acquainted with the Particulars of the foregoing Treatise, and these plain Rules here laid down, And by their care to observe nicely, the *proportion, stamp, countenance, and wearing*, of the good Money, will easily discern its difference from the Counterfeit. And as the *Counterfeiting, Clipping, Rounding, Washing, Filing, Impairing, Diminishing, Falsifying, Scaling or Lightening,*

ing, (for wicked lucre sake) the proper Money or Coyns of this Realm, is High Treason, by these Statutes, (to wit) 25 *Ed.* 3. 2. and 5 *El.* 11. and 18 *El.* 1. And the actors of these Crimes, their Counsellors, Consenters, or Ayders therein, to be punished accordingly: So the counterfeiting the Sterling or Standard Gold or Silver of this Realm, in any Works or Wares whatsoever, both the working, selling, exposing to sale, exchanging or bartering thereof, is severely punishable, as is afore made manifest: And it may be said of the unlawful Money, as of the unlawful Gold and Silver Works, That if the People would (as they may) be so Ingenuous to know and refuse them, the maker of either would soon desist from such unlawful Employments.

Here



Here followeth a *Catalogue*

of the Names of the several For-
raign Silver Coynts that are brought
into this Kingdom, as Bulloin, with
the particular weight of each Coyn,
And their particular Allay and Va-
lue, according to the aforesaid Stan-

dard of 11 ℥ 2 dwt. accounting
the same at 5 s. the Ounce Troy.

Being very useful for all Workers in
Silver, or Traders in the said Mo-
neys, for their ready knowing the
worth of every of them, without
being at the trouble or charge of
making Assays thereof.

I

Holland

			②	dwt.	gr.	
Holland Dollar	—		00	18	5	—
Lyon Dollar	—		00	17	18½	—
Duckatoon of Flanders	—		01	00	22	—
Rix-Dollar of the Empire	—		00	18	15	—
Mexico Real	—		00	17	12	—
Sevil Real	—		00	17	12	—
Old Cardecu	—		00	06	3½	—
French Lewis	—		00	17	11	—
Double Milrez of Portugal	—		00	14	4	—
Single Milrez of Portugal	—		00	07	2	—
St. Mark of Venice	—		00	10	4	—
Double Dutch Styver	—		00	01	0	—
Cross Dollar	—	Is in weight	00	18	00	—
Zealand Dollar	—		00	13	00	—
Old Philip Dollar	—		01	2	0	—
Ferdinando Dollar 1623	—		00	18	6	—
Prince of Orange Dollar 1624	—		00	18	6	—
Leopoldus Dollar 1624	—		00	18	2	—
Rodolphus Dollar 1607	—		00	18	7	—
Maximilian Dollar 1616	—		00	18	2	—
Danish Dollar 1620	—		00	13	0	—
Portugal Teston	—		00	05		—
The Quarter of a new French Lewis	—		00	04	9	—



	dwt.				s. d.		
is worfe	00	10	00	Is valued at	4	4	
is worfe	2	3	00		3	4	$\frac{1}{2}$
is better	00	04	$\frac{1}{2}$		5	4	
is worfe	00	07	$\frac{1}{3}$		4	5	$\frac{3}{4}$
is ftandard					4	4	$\frac{1}{2}$
is better	00	01	00		4	4	$\frac{1}{4}$
is worfe	00	01	00		1	6	$\frac{1}{4}$
is worfe	00	00	$\frac{1}{4}$		4	4	$\frac{1}{4}$
is worfe	00	01	$\frac{1}{2}$		3	6	$\frac{1}{4}$
is worfe	00	01	00		1	9	
is worfe	00	01	$\frac{1}{2}$		2	6	
is worfe	04	06	00		0	1	$\frac{3}{4}$
is worfe	00	12	00		4	2	$\frac{1}{2}$
is worfe	02	00	00		2	3	
is worfe	01	00	00		5	0	
is worfe	00	12	$\frac{1}{2}$	4	3		
is worfe	00	10	$\frac{1}{3}$	4	3	$\frac{3}{4}$	
is worfe	00	9	$\frac{1}{2}$	4	3	$\frac{1}{4}$	
is worfe	00	10	00	4	4		
is worfe	00	4	$\frac{1}{3}$	4	4	$\frac{3}{4}$	
is worfe	00	13	00	2	11	$\frac{1}{4}$	
is worfe	00	01	00	1	2	$\frac{3}{4}$	
is worfe	00	03	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	1		

FINIS.

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